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"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an Anti-Spasmodic and Sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am perfectly satisfied with the results."

"Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manilla, to the effect that Cholera has been raging fearfully, and that the only remedy of any service was Chlorodyne."—See "Lancet," 1st December, 1864.

CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PIRACY AND IMITATIONS.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. Collis Browne was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of Chlorodyne; that the story of the Defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to."—See "Times," 13th July, 1864.

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CAN a Lady recommend a plain COOK for a small family? About thirty. Country servant preferred. Wages £20; no beer. Address Miss Lane, 21, St. Petersburg-place, London, W.

AS COACHMAN, or Groom and Coachman. Understands the management of hunters. Can ride and drive well. Married. First-rate character. Address Coachman, Tarrant Gunville, Blandford, Dorset.

BUTLER, where a footman or page is kept. Single; forty-five. Experienced. Can be highly commended.—B., 9, Philip-street, Hoole, Chester.

WANTED, a Youth, about seventeen, as INDOOR-SERVANT. Apply the Warden, College, Llandovery.

THE Rev. T. LUARD recommends THREE LADS for house or stable. Ages sixteen and seventeen. Address Stanstead Vicarage, Essex.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—SATURDAY (To-Day), ROBERT MACAIRE, at four. Special Promenade Concert and Illuminations at eight. Show of Spring Flowers. EASTER MONDAY.—Among the chief items of the programme, are BLONDIN on the HIGH ROPE in the CLOUDS. Pedestrian Meeting, Coldstream Guards Band and others, "Crutch and Toothpick," (Charles Groves, Horatio Saker, Sam Wilkinson, Rose Cullen, &c.), "Boots at the Swan," Mr. Edward Terry in "A Cure for the Fidgets," &c.; Balloon Ascent, Boxing and Wrestling Champions (Professor Hundred's Troupe), Six Circus Performances, Gardiner's Clown Cricketers, Fairyland Illuminations by Electric Light, Thousands of Japanese Lanterns, and 10,000 Vauxhall Lamps; Grand Firework Display. Two Variety Shows, Vance, the American Midgets, &c.; Shadow Pantomime, Great Flower Mart. Free seats at every entertainment.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Palace of Amusement.—Open 12, close 11 30. Grand Attractions. Everything Free. 2.0, 8, and 8, Grand Unrivalled Variety Entertainment. A Host of Novelties. Produced on a scale of unexampled magnificence.—NOTICE.—All Extra Charges are now abolished, and the price for admission to One and All Entertainments is One Shilling.

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ELECTRICITY, it is well known, repairs waste by energising all vital functions, and thus promotes perfect health, strength, and happiness. It is therefore the most positive natural restorative extant for such cases as

Indigestion.	Loss of Voice.	Gout.
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SELF APPLICATION of this potent remedy is successfully, safely, and cheaply facilitated by the recent provements of

PULVERMACHER'S world-famed GALVANO-ELECTRIC CHAIN BANDS, OFFICIALLY APPROVED by the Academy of Medicine, Paris, and other Medical authorities in England and abroad.

SELF-ELECTRIC CHAIN BANDS are contrived, according to the ailment to be treated, as Bracelets, 5s.; Frontlets, 10s.; Necklets, 10s.; Belts, Pocket Batteries, so as to ensure their utmost convenience and efficacy.

THOUSANDS of Private Testimonials bearing dates in close succession, vouch for their efficacy in cases where other remedies have failed. See Pamphlet, "GALVANISM: NATURE'S CHIEF RESTORER OF IMPAIRED VITAL ENERGY," post free from

J. L. PULVERMACHER'S GALVANIC ESTABLISHMENT, 194, Regent-street, W., and from all respectable Chemists.

GALVANISM v. INDIGESTION and SLUGGISH LIVER.

"Ardingly College, Hayward's Heath
27th December, 1881.

"Gentlemen,—During last spring and the early part of the summer I suffered much from what my medical attendant specified as indigestion and a sluggish liver. At the beginning of August I procured one of your Galvanic Chain Bands and wore it during that month and September. As this is three months ago, and none of the symptoms have returned, I believe, and have every reason to hope, that my recovery is complete and permanent. You are quite at liberty to make what use you please of my letter—common justice demands it.—I am yours truly, "(Rev.) H. Thoms.
"Messrs. J. L. Pulvermacher and Co."

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LONDON THEATRES, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

ADELPHI. — This Evening, at 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE. At 7.45, MY TURN NEXT.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, ROMEO AND JULIET. Romeo, Mr. Henry Irving; Juliet, Miss Ellen Terry.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON. To be preceded, at 7, by A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—To-night, at 7.15, OH! THOSE GIRLS. At 8.30, THE FORTY THIEVES.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MEDUSA. At 8.30, THE SQUIRE.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Every Evening, at 8, MANOLA. Preceded, at 7.15, by PARADISE VILLA.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.50, THE MARBLE ARCH. At 8.40 THE COLONEL.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.40, MANKIND.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—At 7.30, ON AN ISLAND. At 8, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This Evening, at 7.50, MOTHER-IN-LAW. Followed by VULCAN (Burlesque).

ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, THE MASCOTTE. At 7.30, SEEING FROU FROU.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—This Evening will be produced, on a scale of great magnificence, a new edition of the grand fairy spectacular opera, BABIL AND BIJOU; OR, THE LOST REGALIA.

CRITERION THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, RUTH'S ROMANCE. At 8.45, FOURTEEN DAYS.

TOOLE'S THEATRE (late Folly).—This Evening, at 7.30, OUT AT ELBOWS. At 8.30, AUNTIE: Mr. J. L. Toole. Conclude with BARDELL V. PICKWICK.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, the new æsthetic opera, PATIENCE. Preceded by, at 8, MOCK TURTLES.

AVENUE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MADAME FAVART.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Week ending April 15.

Monday—New Grand Lyrical Serio-comic Spectacle, HAP. Gardiner's original Clown Cricketers. Evening Concert of Ballads, and Military Music by Bands of Grenadier Guards and Scots Guards: Vocalists—Miss Annie Marriott and Mr. Redfern Hollins. Tuesday—HAP. Wednesday—HAP. Lecture by Mr. J. W. Siemen's on "Lighting and Electricity." Thursday—HAP. Friday—HAP. Saturday—Saturday Concert.

DAILY—International Electric Exhibition. Palace Lighted Every Evening by Various Systems of Electric Light. Skating Rink. Panorama, painted by M. Philippoteaux (admission one shilling). Orchestral Concerts (Conductor, Mr. August Manns). Organ (Mr A. J. Eyre). Paggi Family (except Wednesday).

Admission to Palace, Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturday, Half a Crown, or by Season Ticket.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—A considerable number of deputies have signed the following protest:—

The undersigned members of the Chamber of Deputies deploring that they had not the opportunity of renewing the protest already made in the preceding Legislature, and associated themselves with the sentiments nobly expressed in the Senate, consider it a duty to make before the country and in the name of the populations who have entrusted to them the defence of their interests, the following declaration:—1. They declare that the law of the 28th March on obligatory primary education is contrary to religious liberty and to the rights of fathers of families, is offensive to the dignity of French citizens, and is of a nature to bring about fatal consequences for the moral future of the country. 2. It is their opinion that all right-thinking citizens should unite their efforts to avert the deplorable results of a law which, in a Christian country, completely separates instruction from Christian education. 3. Therefore they think that in declaring whether they wish children to be taught in public schools, all fathers of families should demand, at the same time, that religious education should be imparted. The undersigned observe that the crucifix and other religious emblems have been removed from the schools of certain localities. If this measure were to be applied everywhere it will be the duty of the inhabitants of each commune to oppose it energetically with all the means in their power, and to ensure the respect due to the religion of the populations. 5. The undersigned have too much faith in the sentiments of honour and in the legitimate pride which animates their fellow-citizens to believe that any intimidation or annoyance will discourage them from fulfilling a duty. 6. The undersigned reserve to themselves the right to demand in due time the abrogation of a law which they consider a French calamity.

The Catholic Société Générale d'Education et d'Enseignement has formed a committee for the purpose of a permanent inquiry into the working of the new Education Act. This committee, headed by MM. Cheanelong, Lucien Brun, Albert de Mun, and other leading Catholic politicians, has published a circular calling upon Catholic teachers, fathers, and others to examine the books given to the children, and make inquiries as to the instruction given by the lay teachers. The names of all Catholic teachers dismissed under the new Act who could be employed in rival schools, are to be reported to the committee. Such schools are to be founded wherever it is possible to do so. Fathers whose consciences forbid them to continue sending their children to the public schools, and who, there being no rival school within reach, are exposed to legal penalties, are to receive aid from a special committee of lawyers, who have volunteered their services for the purpose. Meanwhile the controversy between the Extreme and the Moderate Clericals as to the line of conduct to be pursued still proceeds. The *Monde* insists that the Bishops should give the watchword, and the *Français* urges that a close scrutiny into the working of the Act is better than sonorous declarations and oaths of resistance, and that the resistance should be legal, prudent, and effective; while the *Univers* and the *Clairon* stand up for uncompromising opposition, independent of episcopal guidance.

Cardinal Donnet, Archbishop of Bordeaux. has addressed a letter to the Military Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, protesting against military service being imposed on those who are devoting themselves to religion. He contends, as did a few days ago Cardinal Bonnechose, that the priest amply pays his debt to his country in the self-denial, privation, and incessant labour with which he devotes himself to his profession. He will always be ready to stay at the soldier's side under the tent or in battle, to tend the wounds of his soul and of his body; but he must not be asked to bear arms and shed blood, for his ministry is one of peace and concord among men, and the shedding of blood would stifle or diminish the humane feelings which are needful in the friend and consoler of his fellow-men.

The Comte de Vanssay, secretary to the Comte de Chambord, writes from Göritz to M. Carayon-Latour:—

I have just received a commission which overwhelms me with honour and gives me great delight. You will already have guessed that the King has deigned to direct me to convey to you his warmest congratulations. Holding still in his hand the newspaper giving an account of your courageous attitude in the Tribune of the Senate, it was with great emotion that he said to me, but a minute ago, "I wish my brave Carayon to know how much I applaud his noble protest as a Christian and a Frenchman. I join in it from the bottom of my heart and my faith. I thank him for having, on behalf of the public conscience, thrown down a challenge to the oppressors, which, with God's help, will find sufficient answer in men's minds to thwart the criminal schemes of the atheistic propaganda." Give these words of Monsignor that accent which I cannot render, but which you know, and which belongs only to him, and judge if I was right to be proud of my commission.

ITALY.—The Pope has made Cardinal M'Cabe a member of the Congregations of Bishops and Regulars, of Ecclesiastical Immunities, of the Propaganda Fide, and of Indulgences and Holy Relics. These Congregations are committees for the consideration of questions concerning the various matters of ecclesiastical business. Their names indicate that they are constituted by Cardinals only.

The Pope on Sunday, as a special mark of favour, sent to the Archbishop of Dublin a magnificent palm, which had been presented to his Holiness by Benedictine nuns on the eve of Palm Sunday.

Cardinal di Pietro, Suburbicarian Bishop of Ostia and Velletri and Dean of the Sacred College, went on Monday morning to the Irish College, where Cardinal M'Cabe resides, to pay the customary visit of etiquette to him and the other new Cardinals, who had all assembled there to receive his Eminence's visit.

The *Italie* publishes the following statement:—"It appears certain that Cardinal Jacobini, the Pontifical Secretary of State, will relinquish his post. His Eminence retires, despite the remonstrances of the Pope, because he believes his authority impaired by the powers which the Pope recently conferred on his brother, the Cardinal."

No mischief has attended the celebration at Palermo of the anniversary of the Sicilian Vespers. It was a popular festival of ordinary features and special success. Regattas and illuminations were the principal events. On Saturday night there was an illumination of the Gulf, described as one of the prettiest and most fairy-like scenes imaginable. A long line of vessels were moored in contiguity to each other about a mile from the shore in a semi-circular form, and each of these carried large Bengal lights of every hue. The principal municipal feature in the proceedings was a procession by the City Council to the Church of the Holy Spirit, outside the town, where the first blow was struck which led to the massacre of the French on March 31, 1282. After a religious ceremony Signor Perez, the Senator for Palermo, delivered an address:—

He said they were not merely celebrating on that day a sudden explosion of popular rage which had delivered the island of Sicily from its oppression, but rather the heroism displayed during a twenty years' struggle against the foreigner, supported, as he was, by the greatest force of that epoch—the Papacy. The inevitable excesses of popular reaction on that March 31 600 years ago were to be deplored, but the major share of responsibility rested with those who had provoked the popular outburst, and, above all, with the Pope, who had called Charles of Anjou into Sicily, and with Charles himself. As to the victims, he would only say "*Parce sepultis.*" Those who saw or pretended to see in the present commemoration a puerile and cowardly outburst of spleen against a neighbouring people, or a hostile demonstration directed against the conduct of its Government towards Italy, calumniated both Palermo and Sicily. The commemoration meant simply that the Sicilians desired to see their independence respected as they respected the independence of others.

In connection with a procession on Friday afternoon, Signor Crispi, who is Deputy for Palermo and honorary president of the committee for the commemoration, delivered a speech, in which he said:—

This centennial commemoration is not aimed against any foreign nation. It merely signifies that if necessary we should know how to uphold our rights against any assailant. The modern formula is, that every people should be at home in its own country, the right of conquest having given place to the right of nationalities. We respect the independence of all nations, and in order to be independent ourselves we have created this great fatherland, entrusting its keeping to a Sovereign who is supported by his people and always in harmony with them.

A despatch from the King was received during the celebration; but so far as appears, it was in effect only a salutation to Garibaldi and an inquiry as to his health. The foreign Consuls, on the theory that the *fête* was exclusively one of a municipal and not national character, agreed together not to display the flags of their respective countries.

Bishop Freppel, whose diocese covers part of the old principality of Anjou, has addressed to a paper at Palermo a remonstrance against the celebration. Making every allowance for the provocation given by the misgovernment of the house of Anjou, he recalls the savagery of the massacre and the fact that it merely substituted the Spanish for the French yoke, and deprecates the revival of national animosities by a sexcentenary of blood unjustly shed. "The grand pages of a people's history," he observes, "are those inscribed with its victories, not those recording massacres."

Garibaldi's health continues to improve. He issued an address to the Palermitans, which calls the rising of the city against the French in 1282 the greatest act recorded in the history of the world; and says that Italy, by this commemoration, proves that, while true to the sentiment of the fraternity of nations, she fears no aggression of the insolent, and takes inspiration from the Vespers as to the method of sweeping away tyrants. Garibaldi has also issued two other letters to the Palermitans, which the correspondent of the *Standard* says are so violent in tone and abusive of the Church, as well as historically absurd, that following the example of the best part of the press there, he abstains from remarking on them.

TUNIS.—Cardinal Lavigerie inaugurated the new Cathedral on Sunday morning by a solemn *Te Deum* in honour of the recent escape of the Queen of England from assassination. The streets leading from the British Consulate-General to the Cathedral were profusely decorated with garlands and banners. The building itself was hung with French and English flags and crowded almost to suffocation with French and Maltese colonists. The principal seats were assigned to the British Consul-General, the Judge, and Pro-Consul, who were present in uniform. General Maurand and several other French officers were among the spectators. The Cardinal Archbishop delivered an allocution, in which he declared that England alone had stayed the flood of revolution and extended her high protection to the Roman Catholic faith. He pointed to the religious liberty enjoyed by the Maltese as a striking proof of the magnanimity of England. While praising the patriotic spirit which had prompted the Maltese to organise this *fête* as a token of their thankfulness for the preservation of the Queen, he thought the presence of a French military band, which had played the English National Hymn before the commencement of the ceremony, denoted the sympathy of France with England. Padre Felice, a Maltese friar, translated Monseigneur Lavigerie's eloquent address into Maltese. The English colony assembled at the Consulate and presented the Consul-General with a beautifully-illuminated address for transmission to the Queen. The effect of these cordial manifestations has been to promote a very friendly feeling between the French and English colonists, to which the action of Archbishop Lavigerie has not a little contributed. The English Consulate-General and the houses in some of the streets were brilliantly illuminated after dusk. By a coincidence, M. Cambon, French Minister Resident, arrived during the afternoon and found Tunis *en fête*. The streets were lined with soldiers, and he was received by General Forgemol, the Commander-in-Chief. By some inexplicable infatuation the Bey sent General Mussali to welcome him. To the surprise of the whole French colony assembled at the railway station, General Mussali, notwithstanding the presence of French officials, assumed the place of honour by the side of M. Cambon, and thus drove to the Residency. This fact has created a most painful impression on all sides. The fact is, Englishmen and Frenchmen in Tunis are equally anxious for a new departure.

RUSSIA.—The execution of Lieutenant Soukhanoff, of the Imperial Navy, which was carried out on Friday morning last, at Cronstadt, has, it is said, made a deep impression. Starting from the fortress of St. Petersburg at five o'clock in the morning, Soukhanoff, dressed in prison grey, with half-a-dozen gendarmes, was taken by special train to Oranienbaum, and thence in a boat through the ice by a body of officials. From the Cronstadt landing-place the condemned man was driven to the place of execution, between the fortress and the city walls, in an ambulance cart; and exactly at a quarter to nine was placed in front of the black post against the fortress wall. In front of him stood in open square the Marines and sailors of the different branches of the service now in Cronstadt. Thousands of people surrounded the spot, many watching the scene from the old walls. The prisoner's hat being removed, the sentence was read and the good offices of the Orthodox priest were responded to by the condemned man twice kissing the cross. His grey coat was then replaced by the white shroud which is here used instead of a bandage over the eyes, and two assistants bound him to the post. The drums beat an incessant roll, while a company of Marines were quickly ordered to the front. Levelling their muskets at fifteen paces, they fired the fatal volley. The remains were placed in a trench close to the post, while the naval troops filed past, and were then removed to the cemetery.

AMERICA.—The Senate has ratified the commercial treaties with Roumania and Servia.

President Arthur has sent a message to Congress vetoing the Chinese Exclusion Bill. He says his vital objection is to the 20 years' suspension of immigration, which he regards as virtually prohibitory, and therefore as violating the negotiations on which the Chinese treaty was based, the measure being in consequence a breach of the national faith. The President points out some other features of the Bill, which he thinks can be modified, they being undemocratic and hostile to American institutions. The message refers to the alleged benefits to industries hitherto derived by the Pacific States from the presence of the Chinese, and expresses apprehension as to the injurious effect upon American commerce with China, which would result from legislation of the character proposed, unless carefully guarded. The President, therefore, without naming any specific period of suspension, suggests that the length of the term should be experimental.

Mr. James R. Partridge has been nominated United States Minister to Peru.

AFGHANISTAN.—The last news from Herat is not quite satisfactory. Much would seem to depend upon the Ameer being able to visit personally Turkestan and Herat. Abdul Kudus, the Governor, though making a sufficient show of subordination, nevertheless is in active and most friendly correspondence with Sirdar Mohamed Ishak Khan, the Governor, of Turkestan. Sirdar Ayoob Khan is believed not to have gone towards Teheran, but to be still at or near Meshed, with designs on Herat. The army in Herat has just received two months' pay sent from Candahar, but inclines towards Ayoob, who, however, is no favourite with the resident population. Abdul Kudus Khan is endeavouring to draw over the chiefs towards Mohamed Ishak Khan, who constantly writes to them. The Wali of Maimanah is not considered to be an ally of the Ameer, but to aim at the recovery of his independence. He is fortifying and provisioning his citadel. Russian emissaries are supposed to have visited him. Khuda Yar Khan, formerly ruler of Khokand, is living on the Maimanah and Turkestan border, and is in correspondence with Abdul Kudus Khan. The chiefs of the Takkah and Sarakh Turcomans and the chief of Merv are endeavouring to bring about an Afghan alliance for mutual defence. Abdul Kudus Khan, from his central position, appears to be dealing with the Ameer, with the Governor of Turkestan, and with Ayoob Khan. He evidently doubts whether the Ameer will visit Herat as announced by him. There is a rumour that the Ameer, instead of coming himself, may send the Heir-Apparent to Candahar, and perhaps to Herat, while he remains in Cabul to watch Turkestan. The interests in connection with Herat are so divided that the Ameer will probably establish himself there without difficulty. There is a strong party in his favour, the members of which are not likely to support the other candidates.

IRELAND UNDER MR. GLADSTONE.

On Thursday se'nnight a determined attempt was made to assassinate a farmer and road-contractor, named John Doherty, at Beighmore, near Carrigaline, county Leitrim. Between nine and ten o'clock, as he was proceeding as usual to bring fodder for his cattle, and was crossing from the house into the yard, a shot was fired at him from behind a bush. Only two grains of the charge took effect. He immediately returned to the house, and his assailant escaped. He afterwards walked into Carrigaline, nearly a mile distant, and had his wounds dressed. The cause assigned for the outrage is that he had been seen in communication with the bailiff on the estate, and it was suspected that he was endeavouring to injure other tenants.

Later accounts received from Tralee give the following facts about the murder of Mr. A. E. Herbert, J.P., whose murder we recorded last week:—The deceased attended the Petty Sessions at Castleisland, where he presided with Mr. R. Roche. After disposing of the business of the Court, he left the town for home on foot at a quarter past five o'clock. He was accompanied by Head Constable Higgins, of Castleisland, as far as the military barracks, which are about a mile from the town. Here the head constable parted from him, and started homewards. Mr. Herbert then went on alone for about half a mile to a place known as Lishenbaun-cross, near Dysart. The assassins, in ambush on the side of the road, fired three shots, each of which took effect. The body was seen by a country-woman, who hurried to Castleisland with the news. The spot where Mr. Herbert fell is the most public part of the road leading from Castleisland to his house. On one side of the road is a low wall, and on the other a high ditch sheltered by hawthorn bushes. Several persons were near the place, and it is hard to believe that the assassins were not seen inside the hedge from which the shots were fired. The foot-marks of three men were distinctly traced. It would appear that the deceased was walking on the side of the road next the hedge. The first shot, it is believed, was fired directly at his left side and broke his left arm. He then evidently made an attempt with his right hand to draw a revolver from his breast-pocket. The second man in ambush two or three yards further on then fired with shot, which passed through his hand, making a breach through which two fingers could be put. Mr. Herbert then struggled on a few yards, and the third man then fired with a bullet, which entered the breast over the right lung. The deceased struggled towards a pole to try and support himself, but fell on his face. An observation made by him in reference to a riotous mob that the police ought to have used buckshot and have "skinned them" was the subject of a question in the House of Commons, and had made him more obnoxious. He always carried a loaded revolver, and had frequently declared in public that if waylaid he would sell his life dear. He was a small landlord, and not reputed to be a very harsh one. Three men have been arrested. One of them, named Casey, had been sentenced by the deceased to a month's imprisonment, without the option of a fine. The other two are farmers. They are named Michael Kennedy and John Coffey. Mr. Herbert is also stated to have imposed some heavy fines on the same day that he sentenced Casey. The vindictive spirit aroused against him was not satisfied even with his murder, for eleven lambs on his land have since been killed with pikes. A body of twenty policemen patrolled the lawn at two o'clock in the morning, and the lambs were all right then. At half-past nine a second patrol found them killed. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against some persons unknown."

It is stated with respect to the late Mr. Herbert, that as far back as the year 1861, when he was acting as an agent of some property in the county Kerry, a conspiracy against his life was accidentally discovered. A person had been employed in Tipperary to shoot him. This man got drunk on a portion of the money which was given to him as a bribe and was arrested by the constabulary. During his confinement he raved about the intended murder, and, being questioned by the police, disclosed the plot.

The remains of Mr. Arthur Herbert, who was shot dead near Castleisland, were interred on Monday in the family burial place at Tralee. The inmates of a farmhouse refused to supply a rope required to lower the coffin. It is feared that the coffin will be subjected to outrage.

The perpetration of another murder of a more desperate character than any of the many foul deeds that have been lately added to the black list of agrarian crimes has intensified the alarm which the state of Ireland and of Dublin had already excited. As the victim was a lady well known in Dublin society the news of her shocking death at the hands of assassins has given a great shock to the feelings of a wide circle of personal friends with whom she had mingled in social enjoyment and won their warm attachment by her grace and kindness. She was the wife of Mr. Henry M. Smythe, B.A., Oxon, J.P., 33, Fitzwilliam-place, Dublin, brother of Mr. W. Barlow Smythe, D.L., of Barbaville-house, county Westmeath. She had gone only the day before on a visit to her brother-in-law, and accompanied him in his carriage, together with Lady Harriet Monck, to church, at Collinstown, near Mullingar, and the party was returning from church when the murder was committed. Between the church and Barbaville-house there is a plantation skirting the side of the road, and here three assassins lay in ambush. So little did they fear detection that they were plainly visible to the coachman. Their faces were blackened and they were otherwise disguised. As the carriage was passing they fired three shots almost simultaneously, but only one took effect. This, unhappily, lodged in Mrs. Smythe's head, the left side of which was completely shattered, exposing the brain in a most shocking manner. She leaves a young family to mourn their terrible bereavement. A few days ago Mr. John Talbot, Mr. Barlow Smythe's agent, resigned, having been threatened with a violent death if he continued in office. Mr. Barlow Smythe has been frequently threatened, but with a fearless spirit had stood his ground hitherto without suffering any personal injury; this, however, will be a heavy blow to him.

An inquest was held on Tuesday on the body of Mrs. Henry Smythe, who was shot dead at Barbaville, Westmeath, on Sunday last, when returning from church. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against some persons unknown."

At nine o'clock on Tuesday night Mr. Dominick O'Donnell, of Pulathomas, Belmullet, was fired at while returning home, within a quarter of a mile of his residence. He is a landlord whose estate adjoins that of Mr. Carter, who was shot in the leg some time ago. The bullet passed through Mr. O'Donnell's coat-tail, but he escaped without bodily injury.

At the Galway Assizes, which concluded on Friday, upwards of thirty prisoners were discharged on entering into recognisances to be of good behaviour. The charges preferred against them were those of writing threatening letters, stopping hunts, shooting at persons for the purpose of unlawful wounding, surrounding houses for the purpose of intimidating persons from paying rent, posting threatening notices, and various other agrarian crimes. In Loughrea, where Constable Lylton was shot, bonfires were burnt on the hills in celebration of the release of Clarke, who was accused of the murder.

The Rev. P. O'Higgins, a suspended priest, was brought up in custody before Mr. H. Blake, R.M., and Mr. Frank, R.M., at Gort Petty Sessions on Saturday, charged with having incited, solicited, encouraged, and intimidated divers persons to murder a farmer named Geraghty, of Shanaglish. Constable Walsh, Tubber, deposed to having heard the rev. gentleman make a speech in the chapel-yard at Shanaglish on the 12th ult., in which he said, "Shoot the rats, and do not half shoot them." He also said if there was anyone there base enough to break the national oath he, though a priest, would put a rope round his neck and hang him. Another constable substantiated the last witness's testimony. He added, however, that the rev. gentleman said he would hang such a person as had broken the national oath provided he obtained the permission of Her Majesty. The defendant was sent to gaol to await his trial at the assizes, bail being refused.

Three men, named Connor, Sheehy, and Connell,

have been arrested at Queenstown on suspicion of having been engaged in the murder of Mr. Herbert. The prisoners were proceeding to America by the Cunard steamer *Scythia*. They have since been discharged from want of evidence.

A bomb was thrown on Wednesday night against the William-street Police Barracks, Limerick. It destroyed part of a window and of a wall, but injured nobody. Three men have been arrested.

Mr. Deane, the agent of the Rushbrooke property at Queenstown, has just received a threatening letter. Mr. Deane is the owner of property at Rock Chapel, in the Kanturk district. A tenant named M'Swiney was recently evicted for non-payment of rent. The letter, which is addressed from Castleisland, warns Mr. Deane to restore the tenant, otherwise a conspiracy which is in existence against him will put their decrees in force. The letter has no reference whatever to the Rushbrooke property.

In connection with the "Moonlight" affray at Thurles, co. Tipperary, last week, warrants have been issued for the arrest of several persons who are suspected of being implicated in the outrage, and who since the occurrence have been missing from their homes. The police believe that several of the marauders were wounded.

On Saturday Miss Mary Power O'Connor, sister of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., was charged before the Athlone magistrates with inciting persons to pay "no rent," at a meeting in the chapel grounds at Drum, after sixty-eight ejectments had been served by Mr. Naghten. The defendant who is president of the Athlone District Ladies' Land League, advised the people to feed and clothe themselves and pay all other debts, and let the landlord get what remained. She said her brother was in America gaining plenty of money for their support if evicted, and that the Land League would support them and build huts for them. The majority of the magistrates held that the case was made out, and ordered the defendant to enter into sureties, herself in £50 and two bondsmen in £25 each, or in default to be imprisoned for six months. Refusing to find sureties, Miss O'Connor was conveyed to gaol.

Corporal Huddens, of the 37th Regiment, stationed at Waterford, was found early on Tuesday morning lying insensible in the roadway about a mile from the town. His sword had been taken from him, and he had been murderously beaten. He now lies in the hospital at the barracks in a precarious state.

The examination of the barrack at William-street, Limerick, on Monday, shows that the attempt to blow it up on Sunday night was even more desperate than reported. The bullet-proof shutters have been pierced by iron fragments. The bomb appears to have been after all exploded with gunpowder and not by dynamite, though the authorities are not yet sufficiently decided on the point. The brick lining at the sides of the window on the sill of which the bomb was placed have also been shattered and broken, while the windows in both sides of the lane are broken far and near by the explosion.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday, March 31.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

On the motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Arnold, in rising to move for the appointment of a Select Committee, said he wished to call the attention of the House to the affairs of the largest, the most wealthy, the most widely operating, the most powerful, and the most dignified corporation under the Crown. The business of the Ecclesiastical Commission was conducted by gentlemen of much respectability, while in the Commission were included fifty-two persons who were the highest functionaries in the State, the Church, and the Judiciary. The connection of these great personages with the Ecclesiastical Commission was, however, simply ornamental, except in the case of the Bishops. The direction of the vast business of the office had been affected by Acts of Parliament passed since the real foundation of the Commission in 1836. The Commissioners were to re-invest in land "so soon as may be convenient," and in the meantime moneys coming to their hands were to be invested in public funds. Thus, it happened that the Ecclesiastical Commissioners held at present £5,000,000 of Three per Cents., of which £1,500,000 was derived from sales, the proceeds of which they were bound to invest in land "so soon as convenient." When the scope of the Commission was duly developed in 1850 it assumed this form, that of taking over from ecclesiastical corporations, whether Bishops, Deans and Chapters, or incumbents, their separate estates, for the most part let on leases for lives, with an undertaking to pay to those corporations a certain fixed income determined by authority of Order in Council, and, in due time, to return to them an enfranchised and rack-rented estate sufficient to produce that fixed income in perpetuity. In this process of enfranchisement the area of Church lands —now including more than 500,000 acres—had been considerably reduced, because, while the Commissioners had been active in purchasing outstanding terms of leases for lives, they had over large areas sold the reversionary interest to the life tenants. From time to time episcopal and capitular estates had fallen into their hands, and there were only two Bishops—those of Llandaff and Bangor—whose estates had not passed on to the books of the Commission. In the operations of the Commission it had been assumed as a matter of public policy that Bishops and Deans and Chapters should have estates, and it was always held that when these estates had been enfranchised and had been "ring-fenced" they would pass away from the Commission into local control under these conditions, that should the income prove more or less than the statutory salary it would be for the profit or the loss of the incumbents. A Bishop who took his estate back from the Commissioners—an estate supposed to yield his statutory income—farmed it, in fact, upon a lease for his life, and took it for better or worse. It was assumed that this work would be soon accomplished, and that the surplus in the hands of the Commissioners would have been determined long ago. In 1863 a Select Committee of that House was appointed to inquire into the then state of the Ecclesiastical Commission. One witness of authority gave his opinion that this redisposition of estates would be completed in 1870, and the right hon. gentleman the member for Cambridge University, who was for many years, from 1855, a responsible member of the Commission, deliberately gave it as his opinion that all dealings with these estates would be ended in twenty years, and that then all these transactions would be completed. He did not regret, for reasons which he should presently state to the House, that the evidence upon which that Committee proceeded had been disappointed, and it was impossible to conceive a state of things more utterly unlike a realisation of the predictions of the right hon. gentleman than that which now existed. There were at present thirty Bishops, including two Archbishops. Of these only three had taken back into their own management rack-rented estates from the Commission —Canterbury, Hereford, and Lincoln. The fact of greatest significance was that nine—York, Durham, Carliale, Chester, Ely, Gloucester and Bristol, Norwich, Worcester, and Peterborough—after accepting rearranged estates in assumed relation to their statutory incomes, had given them back to the Ecclesiastical Commission to manage as their agents. The estates of Rochester, Salisbury, St. Davids, St. Asaph, Ripon, and Oxford were in the office undergoing rearrangement, so that, since the last Committee of Inquiry, there had been a wholly new departure, and the Commission had a practically permanent work upon its hands, and had now charge of nearly all the episcopal and a great number of the capitular estates. The system of accounts was condemned by the Committee of 1863, and had never been reformed. It was not easy to get at the income and expenditure of the Commission. The rental of estates vested in the Commissioners amounted to about £880,000 a year. The rental of agricultural land was about £300,000. The Commission derived nearly £150,000 a year from rents of houses and premises in and about London; £270,000 a year from tithes and even rentcharges; more than £200,000 a year from mineral rights; and, in addition, large sums were received from groundrents and manorial fees. From the episcopal estates given back after enfranchisement they received more than £40,000 a year, and £32,000 a year from estates to be applied to specific purposes. Lord Chichester stated to the Duke of Richmond's Commission that the extent of the agricultural land managed by the Ecclesiastical Commission was 250,000 acres, but he thought his Lordship must have omitted the estates given back, and now permanently in the hands of the Commissioners. At all events, it was certain that the Commissioners dealt with an income in connection with real property not far short of £1,000,000 per annum. The Select Committee of 1863 arrived at two conclusions which he desired to press upon the House. He frankly admitted that he would much rather his request for a Committee were negatived than that it should not be plainly understood that the design of a Committee, if a Committee be appointed, was to devise means for carrying into practical effect the two neglected conclusions of that Committee—namely (1) "That the system of throwing permanently the administration of large properties scattered over the whole country into the hands of one central body is objectionable;" and (2) "That, independently of the political objection to such a concentration of property, this system unavoidably consumes a considerable part of the revenues of the Church in the expenses of valuing and revaluing lands, and in the maintenance of a large establishment of secretaries and clerks. Your committee are of opinion that this excessive expenditure is to be attributed in some degree to the fact that estates so widely dispersed are placed under the management of one corporation." (Hear, hear.) He was not indifferent to the welfare of the Church, but he was moved to ask for this committee from a conviction that the unnecessary holding of land by corporations was contrary to public policy and injurious to public interests. As to the limit he sought to impose in that respect, he held it to be a cardinal maxim of public policy that dispositions which take land permanently out of the ordinary conditions of proprietorship were to be defended only by showing that the particular dedication was of such necessity or of so much value to the commonwealth that an exception should be made in its favour. His main object was thus plainly declared. He did not desire the appointment of a Select Committee without an understanding that the execution of that public policy was to be a main line of its inquiry. He need not hesitate to recommend a purely economic policy on the ground that it would be productive of great material advantage to the Church. The expenses of this Commission exceeded all other public offices in respectable extravagance. He did not say that of the expenditure within the office. It applied to outside solicitors and land agents. (Hear.) The expenses of last year, including £55,000 for holdings and drainage, were more than £170,000—that was about 20 per cent. upon the gross revenue. If, instead of five millions of Consols, the Commissioners had all their property similarly invested, with the exception admitted in his statement, in definition of public policy, their expenditure would be reduced by nearly £150,000 a year. (Hear, hear.) The value of land in this country would not, he believed, fail to increase. Yet, he thought, no one would suggest that the accretion would be greater than the value of that annual saving. But, looking at the matter from the point of view of public policy, he had regard to the far greater advantage which would result to the interests of the people at large from giving freedom to this vast area of the most fertile soil of the kingdom. (Hear, hear.) He was a determined opponent to life tenancy in lands, but he believed the most disastrous to public interest was clerical tenure. He had observed with interest that one of the Assistant-Commissioners had informed the Duke of Richmond that glebe lands were among the worst farmed lands in the country. Lord Spencer, before he quitted the Commission, asked Mr. Coleman, "What have you to say about Church estates?" To which the Assistant-Commissioner replied, "Take glebe lands; are there any estates that are much worse managed than they? I say for this reason that the tenant is a life owner and in the most limited degree; it will not be his son or any relative of his own who will succeed him, and he gets as much as he can out of it during his life." (Hear, hear.) A fact worthy of notice was, that the Duke of Richmond had received a report from one of the assistants to his Agricultural Commission, stating, with something very like complaint, that "up to the present time the Commissioners have not adopted a tenant-right agreement." He gave his opinion deliberately that the remuneration of solicitors, surveyors, receivers, and architects, who last year appear to have charged in all something like £80,000, had been a very near approach to a scandal in the business of the Ecclesiastical Commission. (Hear, hear.) There had been involved a continuous and needless waste of the funds of the Church. One great cause of the waste had arisen from the practice of paying their solicitors by fees instead of by salary. Why could not the Ecclesiastical Commission, which was at least twenty years behind the fulfilment of the expectation of its founders, adopt the same principles of payment as the Post Office or the Treasury? It had been said that the present system conduced to the quick despatch of business; but, considering its dilatory proceedings, he did not think much could possibly be lost in that way. The business of the Treasury and Post Office was conducted by salaried solicitors and surveyors, and was quickly and satisfactorily done. He had always heartily believed in the doctrine set forth by Edmund Burke, who said, "that all public estates which are more subservient to the expense of perception and management than of benefit to the public revenue ought, upon every principle, both of revenue and of freedom, to be disposed of." As an example of one of the 937 "special accounts" of the Ecclesiastical Commission, he would take the case of the Vicarage of Rochdale. The Commissioners were managing the lands of that benefice as a separate estate. It was, or would be, worth more than £25,000 a year. There were politicians of all sorts in Rochdale, and some probably advocated the nationalisation of the land, and that a department of State should deal with farm leases and buildings leases, with sites for churches and for public-houses, and with all the claims of priority and pre-emption. He had always opposed those ideas as visionary and impracticable. But if the farming of the Rochdale Vicarage estate by a department in Whitehall was to be held good, then the case against the nationalisation of the land must be given up. But there was not a member of that House who doubted that it was bad: that with the best intentions such management from Whitehall must be extravagant, dilatory, and tending to an imperfect use of the land. One singular feature of the Ecclesiastical Commission had been that when public opinion was turned upon it there was an immediate disposition to reduce expenditure. Within 30 years the Commissioners had spent more than one million pounds in agricultural improvements. There was a strong stimulus in that direction. The land agent received 5 per cent.—£50,000—upon that outlay. Well, he had put this notice on the paper in 1880, and again in the session of 1881. It was a curious coincidence that in February, 1881, the Estates Committee came to the conclusion that as a general rule the commission of 5 per cent. on such improvements should be discontinued, and should be covered by the 4 per cent. commission upon the rents. They had made further savings in the same direction. That showed the inevitable extravagance and development of a great land agency department. Next, as to tithes. According to present appearances the tithes in the charge of the Commission would, at no distant date, be trebled, and would exceed £600,000 a year, and thus nearly one-sixth of the whole tithe-rent charge of England and Wales would be administered by the Commission. He should hope that, in these circumstances, if a Committee were appointed, they might entertain, perhaps through the machinery of this Commission, the question of the redemption of tithe. That would be a measure advantageous both to owners and occupiers of land. Then there was the question of copyholds. The Commission was lord of many manors, and by a curious practice the deputy-stewards gave no account of a moiety of the fees. He hoped that, while preserving the existing right of lord or tenant to compel enfranchisement, a general statute, might bring about the extinction of copyhold tenure within a period, from the date of such a statute, of ten years. He did not doubt that the case was made out for the appointment of a Select Committee, for not only had the propositions of the Committee of 1863 been neglected, but that the evils against which those propositions were directed had immensely increased. The case was strong beyond denial, because the evidence upon which that Committee rested as to the termination of the estate business of the Commission had been utterly falsified by the results. He would fortify himself with a venerable authority with whom he did not often agree—viz., Lord Grey. In 1861 Lord Grey, alluding to the Greenwich Hospital Estates which had since been disposed of, said, "The proper mode of guarding against the evils anticipated is by selling the property. I am persuaded that the public is essentially a bad owner of landed property." He hoped that sentiment would meet with general assent in that House. He acknowledged that it was most creditable to the distinguished ecclesiastics and members of the Legislature who had guided the business of this great Commission for forty years that he was constrained, not by considerations of personal courtesy, but by honest recognition of facts, to say that this vast business, set in the midst of so many and great dangers, had been free from scandalous report. The hon. member concluded by moving,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the position of the Ecclesiastical Commission with reference to the lands and other property vested in the Commissioners, and also into the work in connection with real property of the Church Estates Commissioners and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England and Wales.

Mr. J. Howard, in seconding the motion, said the management of the ecclesiastical property of this country was a very great scandal, and, moreover, the plan adopted with regard to its management had a tendency to retard agriculture. That such was the case might be seen from a very interesting report on the agriculture of Durham published in the journal of the Royal Agricultural Society. Although improvements in the management of the estates of the Ecclesiastical Commission had taken place of late years, it would be seen from the report of the Assistant-Commissioner, Mr. Coleman, that very great improvements were still needed. The report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners showed that the insignificant sum of £8,700 was put down for drainage, while the cost of official establishments amounted to no less than £33,000. If these estates were in the hands of private owners, most of the official charges would be saved and a very considerable addition to the class of landowners would be the result. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Goschen remarked that there was but one part of this large subject on which he desired to say a few words, and that was the broad principle of the possession of land by corporations such as the Ecclesiastical Commission. His hon. friend had covered a great deal of ground, and nearly all the ground he covered was interesting and well deserving the notice of the House; but he wished to confine his remarks to that part of the speech which dealt with the question whether it was to the public interest that these corporations should have so large a portion of the soil of this country. Now, upon that subject he had long had a very decided opinion, and it was, he thought, in 1874 that he called public attention to this matter, not only as regards the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, but also as regards most corporate bodies which held so much land. He raised the question at that time whether it was desirable that the Statute of Mortmain should practically be entirely neutralised. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to think that there was a very considerable consensus of opinion on this point, that it was to the interest of the country that these corporations should begin to sell their land. (Hear, hear.) When he had the honour of being the First Lord of the Admiralty he acted, with the consent of the Government, upon the principle he had previously enunciated, and they sold a considerable part of the Greenwich estates which at that time belonged to Greenwich Hospital. That policy was continued by the Conservative Government. He asked himself when he was at the Admiralty whether it was right for a department which had charge of the enormous interests of the British Navy to be troubled at the same time with the management of vast estates, and to have to settle questions of leases and improvements, and generally to occupy the position of landlords. Fortunately at that time the Civil Lord, Lord Camperdown, was very conversant with the management of estates, but it would have been a great anomaly for a Civil Lord who did not happen to be conversant with such subjects to have to consider questions of leases, drainage, and improvements. In the case of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners things were so far different that here was a body of gentlemen who were trained to the work; but he thought his hon. friend had to a great extent established that it was exceedingly difficult for them to manage these estates with all the advantage of private landlords. He did not mean only the advantage to the owner of the land, but he also alluded to the advantage to the tenant occupying the land and to the public interest. He was glad his hon. friend had brought forward this question now, because, if there were previous grounds for a change of system as regarded the ownership of land by corporations, events during the last four or five years, and the general turn which agriculture had taken, strengthened the arguments for the change. All that we had heard dufing the agricultural depression seemed to show that land was a less desirable kind of property for these corporations to hold than was believed before. On several grounds, and particularly because agriculture was every day becoming a more and more scientific business, he held that such corporations as the Ecclesiastical Commission might by degrees rather pursue the policy of sale than of purchase. Whether the Government granted an inquiry or not the hon. member had done good service in calling attention to the subject. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Gladstone said that for many reasons he wished he could dissociate this subject from the position of the Government; but its complexity and its relation to large questions of principle were such as to demand an answer to the question whether or not the Government was prepared to deal with it. Now, he did not think the Government would be justified in assenting to the appointment of a Committee merely to examine into the prudence of the detailed rules under which the business of the Ecclesiastical Commission was managed. As his hon. friend had said, the question of the constitution of the Commission was open to a good deal of observation. It was constituted upon the principle—rather a favourite one in former times—that of filling up bodies of this kind with persons already charged with heavy duties and responsibilities, the object being by such means to secure efficiency in the transaction of business. (Hear, hear.) It was, however, one of the few propositions of his hon. friend with which he could not agree, that the Commission assumed in its practical character the aspect of another Upper House of Convocation. If he was correctly informed the Bishops, with few exceptions, and notably with the exception of the Bishop of London, rarely attended the meetings of the Commissioners; nor was the responsibility of the Ministers much greater; but he was bound to express his belief that the Commission, when its transactions came to be examined, would not come badly out of the inquiry. Considering that the Commission was one of the largest holders of land in England, it was no discredit to them to say that an inquiry into the management of such a body was from time to time almost the duty of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) The figures just quoted showed that, at any rate, the Commissioners, in their capacity of landlords, had made great efforts. In the county of Durham alone they had spent £120,000 on improved agricultural buildings, and £70,000 on the drainage of land. But that fact did not touch the question underlying the motion of his hon. friend. His hon. friend made no secret of his wish to raise the question whether the holding of large landed estates by such a body as the Ecclesiastical Commission was compatible with the economical management of the public resources, and on that point he concurred entirely with what his hon. and right hon. friends had stated. He was adverse to that method of holding land. (Hear, hear.) The case of the Commission was conspicuous, but there were other cases, also, to which, at some time or other, the attention of Parliament would be directed. He did not now speak of the Crown lands, which, in his opinion, formed a case by themselves, and which, could not accurately be said to be held in mortmain. On that subject he expressed no opinion, and he was extremely glad that his hon. friend had kept it separate and apart from the present question. He felt, however, that the appointment of a Committee to consider the very basis of the Commission as a landowning institution was a question for the Government to decide, and he was compelled to say that at present the Government could not charge themselves with the responsibility of such an inquiry. The unfortunate topic of last night's debate

viewed in its just aspect—the incapacity, namely, of the House, under its present arrangements, to transact its own proper business—constantly returned upon him at every point. The Government had undertaken to deal with several matters of great public interest, and now, when the session was somewhat advanced, instead of being able to add to their obligations, they had to admit that their means of action seemed month by month to diminish. Everything, therefore, must depend on the arrangements the House might make for the transaction of its own business. The Government sympathised with the purpose of his hon. friend, and recognised that the holding of land in mortmain by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners was a proper subject for a searching investigation, but they could not at present undertake to carry on the inquiry. Strong as the Commission was to those who compared its position with the perfectly deplorable position of the individual clergy who happened to be dependent on land for their incomes, it was weak in respect of the general management of its estates. Such a body was not as independent in the face of its tenants as a private landlord, and he believed that the deductions the Commission had been obliged to make under the pressure of bad seasons had been larger than those which private landlords had had to allow. (Hear.) Nor could he fail to agree with the advantage of bringing into the market a considerable portion of the surplus which, instead of being held under the present limitations, might pass into the hands of private proprietors, and become naturally the subject for the exercise of the energy and application of the capital which they would apply to their private purposes. He was glad that this question had been raised by his hon. friend. He regarded with goodwill the operations which his hon. friend had taken in hand. He wished the Government was in a position in which they could promise the House to become responsible for the institution of this important and searching inquiry. But he must not shut his eyes to the number of promises which the Government had already made. He was convinced that his hon. friend would admit that there was force and justice in his plea when he said that, in these circumstances, they ought not to make new promises. (Hear, hear.) Until they had emerged from the difficulties in which they were engaged, he thought they ought not to agree to a premature appointment of a Committee of this kind — a step which might retard rather than advance the object which was held in view. In these circumstances he hoped his hon. friend would not press the motion to a division. (Hear, hear.)

Sir J. Mowbray wished to pointed out several inaccuracies in the speech of the hon. member opposite. First, it was desirable to remember that the four last Bishoprics were without landed estates, so that the inquiry could not refer to them. The member for Salford said that the total land reached 250,000 acres, and his right hon. friend the member for Ripon said it was time they began to sell. The House would be, perhaps, surprised to hear that during the existence of the Commission no less than 416,117 acres, formerly the property of the Church, had been enfranchised, and were now in lay hands. The land held was not 250,000 acres but 190,000. The hon. member quoted some figures about drainage. Why did he began with drainage? He looked to the report of the Council, and he found in one year £47,000 spent on farm buildings, and the year before £52,000 on the same item. Was that a fair way of stating the case—to give the small item about drainage, and leave the larger items alone? (Hear, hear.) Since the Commission was instituted up to the 31st of October last the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had spent a total on farm buildings and improvements of £1,032,715, and on drainage £242,995. As to the surveyors' charges, he did not deny that the figures were large. The object of the Ecclesiastical Commission had been to cut down the expenses of their operations to the very lowest possible limits. The scale of those expenses had been settled in 1851, and it had been revised and reduced on several occasions since that time. It was shown in 1864 that the total cost of the operations of the Commission up to that time would not exceed one year's income. What had been the action of Parliament towards the Commission since 1863? Parliament had exhibited the greatest confidence in that Commission, and during the last eighteen years more than 100 Acts had been passed giving the Commission the control over property of all kinds in such a way as proved that Parliament had the utmost confidence in the wisdom of their management. No doubt the Commission had committed many faults, but on a review of their situation, he challenged the hon. member to show that they had in any way abused the very important trusts that had been committed to their charge, or were no longer entitled to the confidence which the country had reposed in them for so many years, (Hear, hear.) What was the great object with which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners were appointed? It was that they might by a judicious management of ecclesiastical property increase the Church revenues so as to enable them to relieve the spiritual destitution of the country. And what had been the result of the Commissioners' efforts in that direction? They had augmented the value of the livings in upwards of 4,700 out of the 15,000 parishes into which England and Wales were divided. (Hear, hear.) Then, again, did the hon. member know the difference between the estimate which was originally made of what the action of the Commissioners would produce and what had been actually realised? During the period the Commission had been in existence they had added a sum of £19,000,000 to the property of the Church, besides having elicited a further sum of £4,000,000 in the shape of contributions from private sources—thus making a total sum of £23,000,000, for which the Church was indebted to the exertions of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners during the past 40 years, representing an annual income of £790,000. (Hear, hear.) But what was the estimate which was originally formed of the probable result of those exertions? It was estimated in 1836 that they might improve the Church revenues to £134,000 per annum; in 1863 that estimate was increased to £146,000, and it was believed that eventually it might reach £150,000. The figures he had quoted showed that the amount that had been added to the property of the Church by a redistribution of the funds was no less than £640,000. (Hear, hear.) The question was, should they be allowed to go on or not with that beneficial work? He would say, until you have decided the question as to the holding of land by corporations do not disturb the work that is going on. (Hear.)

Mr. Pugh, who had an amendment on the paper which had for its object the embodiment in the motion of the hon. member for Salford of the case of the Crown lands in Wales, said that, after what had fallen from the right hon. gentleman the Prime Minister and from the hon. member for Salford, he certainly did not wish to take the sense of the House on his amendment. He thought there could not be any question as to the undesirability of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners continuing to administer estates. That administration was only carried on at a very great expense, and he felt sure that if the Government took the matter in hand, as the Prime Minister suggested, it would give unqualified satisfaction, not only to the people of the country generally, but also, he believed, to the Church itself. (Hear.)

Mr. Hubbard contended that the Commissioners must not be regarded as an entity like other corporations. They were, in fact, stewards whose clients were not only every Bishop in the Church, but a great number of the clergy also. (Hear, hear.) There could not be better evidence of the good management of the Commissioners than had been given by the right hon. member for the University of Oxford. Not only had they maintained the property, but they had increased it by exchanges and enfranchisements and good management. The Prime Minister had suggested that money payments would be better than land as ecclesiastical endowments; that might be so for the present generation, but nothing was so fluctuating as money, and nothing so permanent as a representation of value as land.

Mr. Pease said that, as he represented a county in which the Commissioners had a great amount of property, he felt obliged to say that the management of the Commissioners was in all respects excellent. The Commissioners had lost an able and devoted servant in Mr. E. J. Smith, whose death was severely felt throughout the whole county of Durham. He wished also to bear testimony to the political impartiality always manifested by the Commissioners. In his county party feeling ran high, but the agents, solicitors, and other persons connected with the Commission did not allow themselves to be influenced in the slightest degree by political considerations. He admitted, however, that in small transactions the expenses were very high; he had seen cases where the law costs exceeded the whole value of the property. But the real question, as had been stated by his hon. friend, the hon. member for Salford, and the Prime Minister, was the general policy of so much land being owned by corporations, and, as it were, in mortmain. He fully agreed with his hon. friend on that subject, and hoped he would be able on a future occasion to bring the question in a riper form for the consideration of the House.

Mr. Dodds fully corroborated what had been said about the good management of the Commissioners' estates. But it was not in the nature of things that they should be so well managed as they would be in private hands. In the county of Durham alone the capitular and episcopal estates were 40,000 acres in extent, and their income could not be less than £100,000 a year.

Sir H. Verney, who was indistinctly heard, said, while he believed the Commissioners had done their duty, he thoroughly concurred in what the Prime Minister had said, that no corporation could properly do its duty to the land. He fully concurred in the remarks of the Prime Minister and of the right hon. gentleman behind him (Mr. Goschen) as to the great importance of getting these landed properties out of mortmain. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Arnold, in asking permission to withdraw his motion, disclaimed all intention of impugning the general management of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and expressed his extreme gratification at the statement made by the Prime Minister and his right hon. friend the member for Ripon.

The motion was then, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

Sir W. Harcourt, in answer to an appeal from Sir R. A. Cross, confirmed the statement that Lamson has been reprieved for a fortnight in consequence of a personal request from the President of the United States, in order that certain evidence collected and submitted to the United States Attorney-General may be sent to this country. In justification of this act the Home Secretary said he held it to be his duty to consider every plea and every representation which might come from any quarter in order to determine whether there was any ground on which the Crown might be advised to exercise the prerogative of mercy. He founded himself also on the precedents of Mansell, in 1857, respited four times for six months, and of Barrett, in Mr. Gathorne Hardy's time, respited twice, and he added that the prisoner had been specifically warned that the respite did not carry with it any implied assurance that it would be followed by a reprieve or commutation of sentence.

On going into Supply, Sir J. Lubbock made some observations on the new Education Code, and, seconded by Mr. Story Maskelyne, moved that it is desirable to allow School Boards and Committees to present children for examination in any of the recognised class subjects.

Lord Sandon was in favour of allowing managers a greater option to take up elementary science. Commenting on the new Code, he expressed a general wish for its success, but expressed a doubt as to certain details, especially the dropping of the honour certificates, and the alterations as to small rural schools, and of the requirements as to the moral condition of the schools.

After some observations from Mr. Stanley, criticising the work of the Training Colleges,

Lord G. Hamilton also canvassed the new Code, especially the new Standard VII., contending that the ultimate operation of it would be to set up a system of secondary education in the elementary schools, the benefits of which would be monopolised by the children of the middle classes. This would not only kill the secondary education which was being provided by the Endowed Schools Commission, but would be detrimental to the primary education for the poorer class. He insisted that there ought at least to be a limitation of age, and was willing to concur in a liberal system of exhibitions to provide for the clever children of the working classes.

Mr. Mundella, replying to Sir J. Lubbock, said the universal testimony of the inspectors was against overloading the younger children with scientific teaching, but he would give the subject further consideration and, if possible, give additional freedom to the managers. Replying to Lord Sandon, he said there was no intention to decrease the grant to the small rural schools, and the object of the honour certificate would be obtained in a different way. The fear raised by Lord G. Hamilton that middle-class instruction was to be trenched on by the new Code was a mere shadow. The only object was to provide that the clever boy of the working classes should not be driven out of the elementary schools; but he admitted that there would be a limitation of age to prevent the result which the noble Lord apprehended.

After some remarks from Mr. J. G. Talbot, Sir H. Fletcher, and Sir M. Lopes,

Sir H. Wolff, who was supported by Sir M. Hicks-Beach and Mr. A. J. Balfour, complained of the unpardonable delay in the production of the papers relating to recent affairs at Gibraltar, and Mr. Courtney said that the papers would be laid on the table after Easter. To this there followed a conversation between Lord Emlyn and Mr. Dodson as to the management of the roads in South Wales, and, the House having gone into Committee of Supply at five minutes to two o'clock,

Mr. Mundella made the annual statement on the Education Vote. The amount of this is £2,749,863, and in explanation of the increase he said that in no previous year had the progress been more solid. There leave our schools weekly to go to labour 7,000 children, but 10,000 new children enter also weekly. The quality of education also improves, as shown by the increase in the number of passes in each class; and there is also a large increase in the accommodation, in the number of children on the register, in the average attendance, and in the number presented for examination. At the same time, taking into consideration the increase in the population, there was a large margin for improvement. He gave, also, numerous statistics as to expenditure, and touched briefly on the state of education in Scotland.

The Education votes for England and Scotland were then agreed to, on the understanding that there will be a further discussion on the report after Easter.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

In answer to Sir Henry Wolff, Mr. Gladstone said that communications had been received from the Government of the United States in reference to imprisoned suspects of American nationality, but the communications were still in progress, and he was not in a position to give any account of their purport or issue at the present moment. The representations made last year to the United States Government in reference to violent literature published in that country, calculated to incite to outrages in England, had not yet been replied to. Sir Henry Wolff asked how many of the suspects were of American nationality. Mr. Gladstone replied that he had no exact information on the subject, but he believed that their number did not exceed four or five.

On the motion of Mr. Redmond, a new writ was ordered for the county of Meath, in the room of Michael Davitt, disqualified.

Mr. Gladstone having moved that the House at its rising should adjourn until Monday, April 17,

Mr. Gorst called attention to the proceedings at the recent assizes in Ireland, and to the evidence thereby afforded of the increase of agrarian crime and the general collapse in the administration of justice, and asked the Government what steps they proposed to take. He remarked that for the last eighteen months the Government had been living in a fool's paradise, and it was desirable that they should get out of it as soon as possible. It was important that the truth in regard to the present state of things in Ireland should be known not only by the Government, but by the House and the country. Mr. Gorst quoted extracts from reports of the proceedings at the different assizes to show that there was no absence of prisoners for trial for agrarian offences. In one case a man had been half-roasted alive and mutilated for cutting the grass of a man who had been Boycotted, and the jury were discharged on account of their inability to agree upon a verdict, although the facts were proved by direct evidence. There had not only been a general increase of agrarian outrages, but an alarming increase in the serious character of the offences. He went through the cases brought before the various judges of assize, and showed that they included threatening notices, assaults in dwelling-houses, seizing arms and levying contributions, sending letters threatening to murder, maiming, mutilation, treason-felony, intimidation, unlawful assembly, and riot. Out of 650 cases tried in the county of Cork, only two were for ordinary crime; and in every case tried the prisoner was either acquitted or the jury were unable to agree. In the case of a man named Doolan, whose ears had been cut off, Doolan himself, his wife, and son identified three of the prisoners; but they set up alibis and were acquitted. He looked upon these agrarian crimes as a disease, and regretted to say that they were spreading into counties hitherto almost wholly free from them. He had confined his remarks to cases sent to the assizes; but he could not refrain from calling attention to the case reported that morning, in which an innocent lady, resident in Dublin, while on a visit to her brother-in-law, was shot dead as she was returning from church. He appealed to the Government to take active steps for putting a stop to a state of things which Chief Justice May described as a disgrace to civilisation. When the House assembled after the Easter holidays the country would certainly expect from the Government some clear declaration of their Irish policy.

Mr. Gladstone said he was not surprised, considering the gravity of the circumstances detailed by Mr. Gorst, that he had brought them forward; but he regretted that a warning as to the nature of the circumstances had not been given before the Chief Secretary left for Ireland.

Mr. Gorst said that he had given notice on Monday of his intention to raise the question, when Mr. Forster was present.

Mr. Gladstone pointed out that the powers of the Government were ample to put down a political revolution; they were even tenfold more than were required; but a social revolution was a different thing, and that was what the Government had now to contend with. He did not blame the late Government for not having foreseen the extent to which the Land League was likely to be developed; but, unhappily, it had been allowed to plant its roots firmly and in a wider circle than any previous Irish movement had done, before the present Government came into office. At the same time the Government had no reason to be dissatisfied with the progress made by the Land Act in defeating the doctrines of the Land League in regard to the payment of rent. He was afraid that the perpetrators of outrage in Ireland had some powerful influence behind them, and he said it had never yet been denied that the funds of the Land League had been made available for the promotion of outrage. (Cries of "No" from the Irish members.) At any rate, in a case against one of the "Moonlight" gang, the counsel for the defence received a fee of 100 guineas, and no denial had yet been made that the money came from the Land League. When he saw only as recently as that very morning the Government described by Mr. Healy as a "gang of brigands," and Mr. Forster as the captain of the gang, there was very little room for doubt that the influence of the Land League was being used in the way he had described. No doubt it would be the duty of the Government to make a declaration in regard to Ireland and its present condition; but they reserved to themselves the selection of the proper and fitting time for doing so.

Sir Stafford Northcote characterised the speech of Mr. Gladstone as not only disappointing, but to some extent alarming. Everybody must have felt that for Parliament to separate without a word being addressed to the Government as to the condition of Ireland was not to be expected. He thought the House had a right to complain that the Chief Secretary was not present to give an explanation, for no one could deny that there was a feeling of great anxiety and of indignation with regard to the condition of Ireland. The Government evidently saw that before long they must make proposals to Parliament for remedying the evil; but there was reason to apprehend from the hesitation shown by the Prime Minister that even now the Government had not made up their minds to face the difficulty. If anything was to be done the Government must be prepared to act with vigour founded on conviction, and without the slightest regard to the taunts which their action might bring forth. The country called upon them to render themselves equal to the emergency; and the assertion that they did not receive all the support they ought from their political opponents and the landed proprietors of Ireland was entirely beside the question. Mr. M'Carthy said he had listened to the remarks of Mr. Gladstone in the hope of getting some idea or suggestion as to the development of this matter, or 'of hearing some confession of the utter failure of his policy. No suggestion or opinion of that kind had been offered. On the contrary, the Government seemed to be still under the impression that all they had to do was to charge all the disturbances upon the leaders of the Land League and then to have recourse to repressive measures. He was not a member of the executive of the Land League, but only a humble member of that body. He knew the members of the executive well, however, and he declared that they would be the last men in the world to take any part in the encouragement of outrages. He was not prepared to dispute the assertion that crimes were increasing. But he wanted the House to believe that it was the coercive policy of the Government which had brought about the present state of affairs. Sir John Hay regretted that the Government had not indicated its intention to deal more effectually with a state of things which was disgraceful to the empire. His own plan would be to abolish the Lord-Lieutenancy; to govern Ireland from the Home Office; to put the Executive for the present in the hands of the military authorities; and to send a commission of judges to try prisoners. He also thought an extensive scheme of emigration necessary for the relief of Ireland. Mr. O'Donnell regarded Mr. Gladstone's speech as another instance of the policy of evasion which he was so fond of practising. Although he had been the patron, promoter, and admirer of the Land League, yet now it had ceased to serve his purpose he denounced it. The Government would have to revert to a policy of justice to Ireland—he hoped it was not too late. He was glad to say that the policy sketched out from the front Opposition bench would be infinitely more favourable to the Irish tenant, and more conducive to the peace and harmony of Ireland, than the brutal and cowardly procedure of the so-called Liberal Government. Mr. Redmond denounced the coercion policy. Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett contended that Mr. Gladstone's suggestion that the Land League had been permitted to acquire a firm hold over the people of Ireland before the present Government took office was refuted by facts. Under Lord Beaconsfield's Government the number of outrages steadily diminished; but as soon as the present Government took office the number began to increase, and in December, 1880, they reached the enormous total of 869. The fact was that the Conservative Government had been thoroughly aware of the gravity of the state of things in Ireland; while the Government of Mr. Gladstone, in spite of Lord Beaconsfield's warning two years ago, had courted failure by their policy of alternate weakness and violence. Mr. Healy justified his description of the English in Ireland as a "gang of brigands" by the speech of Mr. Chamberlain at Liverpool, and repudiating for the Land League all complicity with outrages, declared that Mr. Gladstone, by his Clerkenwell outrage and "chapel-bell" speeches, had given more encouragement to outrages than any living politician. Mr. Chaplin urged the Government to supplement the Prime Minister's unsatisfactory assurances. After some remarks from Mr. Callan, the motion that the House should at its rising adjourn to the 17th inst. was agreed to.

Mr. W. H. Smith gave notice that he would move his resolutions in regard to the Purchase Clauses of the Land Act on May 5; and Mr. Sexton gave notice of a resolution condemning coercion and affirming the expediency of relying solely on remedial measures for the pacification of Ireland. Mr. Labouchere gave notice of his intention on the 9th of May to move a resolution to the effect that it was desirable that legislation should be proceeded with during the present session to enable every duly elected and properly qualified member to take his seat in that House. Mr. Sexton intimated that on an early day he would call attention to the incapacity of the Government in the administration of the Coercion Act in Ireland, the exasperating effects of that Act

on the Irish people, and its complete failure to accomplish its ostensible purposes, and move that the time has come when the Government ought to depend upon remedial legislation alone. Sir John Hay said that on the 2nd of May he would move a resolution in relation to the detention of a large number of Her Majesty's subjects in Ireland without trial, and the substitution for trial by jury of some form of trial less liable to abuse.

The House, at seven o'clock, adjourned to the 17th of April.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The polling in East Cornwall resulted in the return of Mr. C. T. Acland, Liberal, by a majority of 200 over his Conservative opponent, Mr. J. Tremayne.

Earl Cairns has left for Bournemouth, where he intends spending the recess. Sir Stafford Northcote is the guest of Earl Beauchamp at Wimbledon. Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., left town on Wednesday, for a short visit to Ireland.

The following appointments have been approved of by the Queen:—Colonel Sir T. D. Baker, K.C.B., to be deputy quarter-master-general in Ireland, dated April 1, 1882; Captain S. M. Brownrigg, Oxford Light Infantry, to be aide-de-camp to Major-General Sayer, commanding the Belfast District, dated April 4, 1882; Brevet Major M. N. Kane, Seaforth Highlanders, to be brigade-major at Chatham, dated April 5, 1882.

Mr. Mitchell Henry has made the following answer to some of his constituents who have disapproved of his action on the *clôture*:—

April 3.

Gentlemen,—I regret the difference of opinion between us about the *clôture*. I have always vehemently and publicly by speech and by writing opposed the organised obstruction which seeks to waste the public time and to bring Parliament into contempt.

Time is God's best gift to man, and if we do not redeem it and make the best use of it we are deeply guilty; nor can anyone calculate the amount of human misery which has been intensified and prolonged by the insane attempt "to punish the House of Commons by bringing on ourselves the moral guilt of deliberately wasting the precious hours of life."

Moreover, the action of the *clôture* has in my judgment been enormously exaggerated. It is not applicable to nor will it be used for any other purpose than to bring discussion to an end when everybody is tired and every argument has been exhausted. If, however, sittings of twenty-six and forty-two consecutive hours by night and by day are to form the order of battle in the House of Commons, our future members must be athletes and prize-fighters capable of enduring fatigue and of sleeping at will, not men of trained intellect and culture, with their often accompaniment of delicate physical organisation.

Much evil is said of me now, not long ago the trusted servant of the Irish people; but I defy anyone to prove that I have changed my political principles one iota or failed to fulfil all my promises. My speeches, my letters, and addresses before the election of 1880, stamped me as a follower of the policy of conciliation and patient work devised by Mr. Butt, and as an opponent of the unconstitutional policy of exasperation and violence, both in and out of Parliament, which has been substituted for it. I repeat what I said last year, that this policy, far from compelling a Land Bill, as is impudently pretended, delayed the Land Bill for months and enfeebled it when obtained. In place of remedial measures, it has only succeeded in bringing on the country, spite of the efforts of both sides, coercion and misery.

Ireland is stained with blood and crime, and for the first time in the history of national movements greed and selfishness are proclaimed as national gods, religion and morality are openly scoffed at, and the Divine anger is justly roused against us by the continued violation of the laws on which society is based.

These things are the direct results of the present political policy—the exact opposite of the policy of the almost-forgotten Isaac Butt.

I am, gentlemen, your faithful servant,
Mitchell Henry.

According to the *Academy*, it is stated that Prince Frederick of Schleswig-Holstein-Augustenburg, cousin of Prince Christian, who died on last Christmas Day, has bequeathed the greater part of his valuable library of Oriental books and MSS. to the University of Cambridge. Prince Frederic took a great interest in India, which he visited three times. Under the *nom de guerre* of "Onomander," he published an account of his travels in 1859, *Altes und Neues aus den Landern des Ostens*, Hamburg. In 1880 appeared the first volume of a history of Akbar, upon which he had been long engaged—*Kaiser Akbar: ein Versuch über die Geschichte Indiens im sechszehnten Jahrhundert* (Leiden: Brill). On this occasion he used the name "Graf F. A. von Noer," which title had been conferred upon him by the King of Prussia.

The most noteworthy event of the Ouvry sale, at which a number of English poetical and dramatic rarities, mostly in poor condition, were disposed of, was the competition for the first and third Shakespeares, both of which fell to Mr. Quaritch, at prices which clearly show that copies of the folios will rise in time to a fabulous value. The set of quarto reprints (by Mr. Halliwell-Phillips) was acquired by the same purchaser for £176.

Spectacles versus Blindness.—One-fourth of those suffering from blindness can trace their calamity to the use of common spectacles or lenses imperfectly adapted to the sight. Mr. Henry Laurance, F.S.S., Oculist Optician, personally adapts his Improved Spectacles at his residence, 3, Endsleigh-gardens Euston-square, London, daily (Saturdays excepted) ten, to four Sir Julius Benedict writes:—"I have tried the principal Opticians in London without success, but your spectacles suit me admirably. The clearness of your glasses, as compared with others, is really surprising." Dr. Bird, Chelmsford, late Surgeon-Major, W.E.M., writes:—"I could not have believed it possible that my sight could have been so much improved and relieved at my age, 82. I can now read the smallest print, although suffering from cataract on the right eye." The Rev. Mother Abbess, St. Mary's Abbey, Hendon, says:—"The spectacles supplied to myself and several members of the Convent have given great satisfaction." Similar testimonials from John Wolcott, Esq., F.R.C.S., Founder of the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone; Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Clifton; Lieutenant-General Macmillan, Brentwood; the Rev. Joseph Hargreaves, Uxbridge-road, and hundreds of others. Mr. Laurance's Pamphlet, "Spectacles, their Use and Abuse," post free,

BISHOP MOORHOUSE ON THE REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.

The *Melbourne Argus* publishes the following lecture by the Bishop of Melbourne on the "Doctrinal Effects of the New Version of the New Testament:"—

"Ladies and Gentlemen—I have undertaken a task which somebody, I think, ought to attempt at this particular time. It is not to give a minute criticism of the scholarship of the Revision Committee of the New Testament. That is a task which, considering the eminent character of the persons composing that committee, any scholar might naturally shrink from. Nor would the attempt, by whomsoever made, be intelligible or profitable to nine persons out of ten. The people want to know what changes, if any, have been made, not in the verbal form, but in the substantial teaching of the New Testament. This they have a right to ask, and somebody should try to answer this question for them. Hence the present attempt. I must, however, bespeak your indulgence, for I fear that in the execution of my task I must appear not a little tedious to you. My lecture must have the fault of old-fashioned sermons. It must abound in texts; and, as these quotations have to be made from an unfamiliar book, they cannot be made from memory, and must involve much turning over of leaves, and some little loss of time. Since, however, this is a difficulty necessarily inherent in my task, I trust you will make kind allowance for it. One word let me say first about the title of my lecture. I am to speak to you about the doctrinal 'effect' of the New Version. What I mean is the doctrinal tendency or drift; for what will appear as the result of our investigation is rather a tendency than a solid change which can be expressed in propositions. You may ask, therefore, why I did not propose to speak to you about the doctrinal drift of the New Version? The title is a much neater one, and would have looked better on a handbill. But then it might have misled you. You might have thought that I saw a drift in the mind of the translators rather than in their work. And this would not be the fact. More indubitable marks of honesty, of an honest endeavour to give the exact equivalent of an original, without either doctrinal or other bias, I never saw in a translation. Be assured of this—you have really honest work in the new translation. The only subjective element I see in it is a little timid conservatism. But then when you take into account the importance of the sacred documents with which the Committee were dealing, and their resolve based upon this fact that no change should be made in the old version without the consent of two-thirds of the Company, the wonder is, not that some timidity appears, but that more of it is not discernible. One other thing let me say—I have taken some little pains, as much as the time permitted, to qualify myself for my task. I have read through the whole of the Revised Version, and have noted with some care all the more important doctrinal changes. If I produce at present only a selection of these, it is because our time is limited, and because those which I have selected enable me to give a pretty complete survey of the subject. With these few prefatory observations I shall now plunge *in medias res*.

"I begin with 'the last things' first, partly because the alterations in passages relating to eschatology, or the 'science of the last things,' are amongst the most important and distinct of all which are made in the New Version. In Matthew v. 22 we find 'hell fire' translated into 'the hell of fire,' with the reading 'Gehenna of fire' in the margin. I have no doubt at all that here the translators were wrong. They should have put Gehenna in the text, and have made no mention of 'hell' whatsoever. But why, you will say? Because so many gross and misleading ideas gathered round the word 'hell' in the middle ages. 'Hell' in itself is a harmless word enough. It only means a hollow place, and with reference to this meaning of the word tilers were called helliers (coverers in of a hollow place) in early English. But in the middle ages 'hell' came to mean a place full of fire and brimstone, in which souls were literally burned; a place full of torments and fiends, and all the horrible paraphernalia of the mediæval Tartarus. These associations will always cling to the word like a parasite that has grown into a tree. You cannot cut them away, and therefore the word ought not to have been used. For observe, 'hell' is no more a translation of Gehenna than it is of Hades. Hades means 'the unseen world,' and in several places (as Matthew xi. 23, Acts ii. 27) the word 'hell' has been exchanged for Hades. Where 'Gehenna' occurs, hell should in like manner have been exchanged for Gehenna. Nay, the reason for this change was even stronger than for the other. For Gehenna has a definite meaning. It means the Valley of Hinnom. It is the name of a well-known valley to the south of Jerusalem, and thus it carries upon its forefront the sign that it is nothing more than a symbol. There was a very dismal swamp, called 'Batman's Swamp,' near Melbourne. Suppose, then, that for its filth and horror it had been adopted by earlier colonists here as a symbol of the misery of souls cast out from God. Whenever we had said to an obstinate sinner, 'If you go on in that course you will be in danger of Batman's Swamp,' he would have seen that we were speaking symbolically. So it would be with a Jew. When you told him that he was in danger of the 'Valley of Hinnom,' he would know that you were speaking symbolically. And if, further, you spoke to him of the 'worm' and the 'fire' of the Valley of Hinnom (as in Mark ix. 33, 34), he would know that you referred to the corruption and torment of sin in another world under the images of the rotting carcases of the Valley of Hinnom, and of the fires kindled there to consume them. It is a very great pity, then, that the New Version relegated the word to the margin which tells this story. It should have been in the text, and the misleading word 'hell' should have been excluded. That the Scriptural representations of the future punishment of the wicked are symbolical is apparent, too, from another circumstance. The imagery under which it is represented changes in different parts of our Lord's teaching, following, indeed, the imagery of certain parables in which it occurs. In Matthew xxiv. 51, where the conduct of the sinner is compared to that of a disobedient slave, the punishment also is represented as that which a slave would receive. His master shall 'cut him asunder,' or, as the margin has it, 'severely scourge him,' casting him into that prison where there is '*the* weeping and gnashing of teeth.' In the beginning of the 25th chapter of St. Matthew our Lord had represented the rejection of the wicked under the image of the foolish virgins, who were not allowed to enter into the light and joy of the marriage mansion, but were shut out into the outer darkness. In a parable accordingly spoken by the Lord at the same time—that of the talents—the churlish servant is represented as cast into the 'outer darkness,' where, as before, is '*the* weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Again (Matthew xiii. 42), as the end of the tares is to be burned, so also the punishment of the wicked is represented under the image of being cast into the furnace of fire, where again is '*the* weeping and gnashing of teeth.' The only symbol which is constant in these representations is '*the* weeping and gnashing of teeth,' made more emphatic by the proper translation of the definite article. The great reality represented, then, is sorrow and despair; but the forms under which this torment is represented vary—now it is a scourging, now a shutting out into the darkness, and now again a casting into the furnace of fire, the particular form in each case being clearly determined by the imagery of the context. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to point out that the representations of the Apocalypse are all symbolical. The fact stands out on the very face of the book. It adopts and develops whatever of the symbolism of Daniel and Ezekiel is most striking and realistic. But who can doubt that it is symbolism? Does any one ever expect to see a city 1,500 miles high, with enormous gates formed out of a single pearl? Or does any one ever expect to see a 'bottomless pit,' rendered more exactly 'the pit of the abyss?' If so, he must expect to see also very peculiar locusts ascending out of the smoke of it; locusts which certainly would have been killed by the fire out of which they issued, if they were visible and tangible things; locusts which forsake their natural food, grass and green things, and only go forth to sting men to death like scorpions; locusts that, above all, don't belong to man's 'future' life, but to 'this' life, where there is grass to avoid, and where there are men to sting. Is it not obvious that we have here a terrible symbol of the earthly retribution on sin; and that in the pit of the abyss we have only an indication that this retribution shall proceed from the agency of evil? The book itself (chap. xx. 3) teaches us that by 'the pit of the abyss' is only meant the secure imprisonment of evil; as also chaps. xix. 20, xx. 10 and 14 show us that in the 'lake of fire, which is the second death,' we have nothing more than a symbol of destruction. For what are the forms which are there said to be cast into the lake of fire? Are they real forms, susceptible of torture, or only ideal forms susceptible of destruction? They are ideal forms pure and simple. One is the beast—the symbol of godless force; another is the false prophet—the symbol of godless wisdom; another is 'Death'—the impersonation of an accident of human life; another is 'Hades'—the unseen world. Does anyone think that death or the unseen world is going to be tortured in that lake of fire? No one. Everyone sees that the meaning is they shall be destroyed. There shall be no more death or Hades. And why, then, should any one deny that when (chap. xxi. 8) the wicked are said to be cast into that lake, the meaning is they shall be destroyed? Certainly it is the 'drift' of the New Version to favour these reasonable views of symbolic interpretation. It renders chap. xvi. 7, for instance:—'I heard the altar saying.' Our version has it:—'I heard another (angel) from the altar saying.' A talking altar seems to be an absurdity to some early copyist of the Greek text, and so, to make sense of it, he introduced two Greek words (*allou ek*). These, however, are not in the best copies, and have been excluded from the text which the revisers followed. And now, what is the result of this honesty? It plainly proves that the language used is symbolical; for in symbol you can have either a 'talking altar' or an impersonated Hades.

"We have seen what light the New Version throws upon the question of the 'naturo' of future punishment. Let us inquire next if it affects in any manner, and, if so, how far, the question of its 'duration.' The New Version retains, we observe, the two phrases 'for ever' and 'for ever and ever,' but it gives in the margin their Greek equivalents—'unto the ages' and 'unto the ages of the ages.' Again, I think that the marginal readings ought to have been in the text. To render these Greek expressions 'for ever' and 'for ever and ever' is not to translate, but to 'interpret' them. As it stands in the Greek, the expression 'unto the ages' represents a future time 'indefinitely long;' how long, is to be principally determined by the context in which it occurs. Thus, when it is said (Luke i. 33) that our Lord shall rule over the house of Jacob 'unto the ages,' the meaning can only be unto the ages during which such a distinction as that of race and nationality lasts. But when it is said, as in Revelation iv. 9, that the Lord liveth 'unto the ages of the ages,' this indefinite expression must be held to embrace all future ages. A more literal translation of these expressions would further have revealed their connection with some other important passages, which the Old Version can only be said to have paraphrased—translating age by world. Such a passage is Ephesians i. 21. Here the New Version translates correctly, not 'the world to come,' but the 'age' to come. Doing so it adds definiteness to the meaning. 'The "world" to come may be equally existent now, but the "age to come," the age of glory, is wholly still in the future.' It has sometimes been urged that it is allowable to paraphrase the passages in which such phrases (as *eis tous aionas*) occur, because the Greek language furnishes no better equivalent for the English 'for ever.' This is not the case. There are several Greek words for endless (as *ateleutos*, *aperantos*), not one of which is ever used. Nay, had the sacred writers desired to express strictly the idea of time without beginning and without end, they could have done it by a proper use of the word *aion*. For, as the New Version shows us, this is actually once, but only once, done in the New Testament. In the last verse of St. Jude's Epistle glory is ascribed to God 'before all time and now, and unto all the ages.' This absolutely includes 'all duration;' as we are used to phrase it, 'from eternity to eternity.' But there is no other passage in the New Testament where any of the sacred writers use the adjective 'all' to characterise the ages—a thing which had been easily done if the design had been to give the idea of endlessness. Well, but surely, you will say, there is the adjective 'everlasting.' But in the original this is only *aionios*, the adjective formed from the word we are considering. It is interesting to observe how the latest translators have dealt with this word. They never translate it everlasting, but always eternal—a word which is related to the Latin *ætas* an age, exactly as the Greek *aionios* is related to *aion*, an age. The ambiguity of the original is thus exactly reproduced in the New Version. And that there is ambiguity in the meaning of this word, the version very clearly and very honestly reveals to us by translating, and not merely paraphrasing, as the Old Version did, certain remarkable passages. The most remarkable of these are 2 Timothy i. 9 and Titus i. 2. Here we are told of what happened '*before* times eternal.' Now, if eternal meant here what we commonly suppose it means, that which is without beginning and without end. this is absolute nonsense, for what could occur before times which had no beginning? If, however 'eternal' here only means *aionian*, cyclical, dispensational, referring to ages which had their truth to realise, which realised it and then passed away, all becomes clear, and all most interesting. Then it is said that God's 'promise' and God's 'purpose' existed before all the times, which in their passage have typified and partially realised it. There is another possible meaning of the word 'eternal.' It may mean that which in its nature is related to the 'abiding'—that which is real, because spiritual. And, strange to say, the New Version reveals to us that the former translators, in spite of their sometimes translating eternal 'everlasting,' saw the possibility of this. In the New Version you will find 1 Timothy vi. 19 exactly rendered—'That they may lay hold on the life, which "is life indeed."' The Old Version is, as you know, 'That they may hold on "eternal" life,' showing that the old translators perceived that the eternal might mean the 'real,' just as the temporal may mean the 'phenomenal;' that which is seen being temporal, that which is not seen being eternal.' This is very much the meaning which Mr. Maurice saw in the word 'eternal'—a meaning which almost seems to be formulated and explained in our Lord's words (John xvii. 3)—'And this is life eternal, that they should know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom Thou has sent.' These two meanings, then, of the word 'eternal,' the 'cyclical' and the 'real,' are clearly brought out in the New Version; and this alone shows how thoroughly the revisers were justified in abolishing the translation 'everlasting.' Everlasting is an interpretation, and a very 'precarious' interpretation. And while speaking of 'condemnation,' it is important to remark that the word 'damnation' has wholly disappeared from the New Version, even as the word 'hell' ought to have disappeared. Thus in Romans xiv., where the Apostle is considering the question of clean and unclean meats, he lays it down that it is lawful for a Christian either to eat or to abstain from eating. But, he adds, let each be persuaded in his own mind, for he that doubteth is 'condemned' (not 'damned') if he eat. And how' condemned? By his own act, for whatever is not of faith is sin. It is obvious that here there is not a hint of final damnation. In like manner the word 'damnation' is banished from a passage where it has done more harm and caused more distress to sensitive souls than I could easily describe or you conceive. 'He that eateth,' we read in 1 Corinthians xi. 29, 'eateth (not) "damnation" but "judgment" to himself, if he discern not the body.' And that this judgment is only a temporal one, a 'chastisement' sent to 'avert condemnation with the world,' is made quite plain in verse 32. The word 'damnation' is excluded even from a passage where most persons would expect to find it—John v. 28, 29—where we read in the New Version, 'All that are in the tombs shall hear His voice and come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.' Whatever that judgment may be, the effect of the alterations in such passages is to subdue the accent of threatening, and to rob the awful face of retribution of something of its dread sternness.

"It is natural to ask next, does the New Version throw any light on the question of a 'possible future probation' for any of the dead? There is very scant reference in Holy Scripture to the state between death and judgment. We find in Revelation none of that 'fanatical particularity,' as Paley calls it, which distinguishes so many false religions. The parable of Lazarus and Dives is a parable filled with Jewish imagery, concerning which we cannot do better than remember the old theological rule, *theologia parabolica non est demonstrativa*. But, saving this passage, there is only one other in the New Testament which can be said to refer directly and specifically to the state of souls between death and judgment. That, you know, is 1 Peter iii. 18. The Old Version left it possible to interpret this passage as meaning that Christ went to the Antediluvians now in prison, when they lived on the earth, and by His spirit, through the preaching of Noah, called them to repentance. The New Version, by its more correct rendering, has destroyed the possibility of such an interpretation. Here flesh and spirit are so opposed that, as in the Greek, the word spirit must mean, not 'the Holy Spirit,' but our Saviour's human spirit, 'in which' (not by which) He went and preached to the Antediluvians in prison. We must not make too much of a single passage, nor press its application beyond its proper scope. But bearing these cautions in mind, two things are to be noted. First, while opening the possibility of probation in the state between death and judgment: the means of this probation are purely spiritual. There is not a hint of the gross and carnal notions of the mediæval purgatory. It is not by fire, but by preaching, that souls are called to repentance. Secondly, it is to be observed that we only hear of the extended probation of a particular class of men. These, it is true, may be only specimens of others. But, if so, they suggest to us the continued probation of those whose probation was on earth incomplete. What myriads there must have been in the great overthrow of Noah, to whom, as in all natural catastrophes, death must have come, so to speak, accidentally! How can we believe that at such a time, or, indeed, at any time, natural death always synchronises with the completion of the soul's moral trial—that, for instance, no tile falling from a house ever kills a man, except when his will has taken that decided action which fixes him 'unto the ages,'

either as a friend or an enemy of God? Or how can we believe that all the myriads of the heathen, or all the children in Christian lands, who have been brought up by profligate parents, have come to an end of their moral probation, when they suffer the natural accident of bodily death? All these cases it used to be the practice to hand over to the uncovenanted mercies of God. It must be a most welcome relief to have some light of revelation, be it only a gleam, to point out to us the means by which such mercy reaches its beneficent ends.

"I have spoken of the extent of condemnation. The question may next be asked, does the New Version throw any fresh light on the extent of redeeming love? I think it does. In Ephesians i. 10 the expression, to 'gather together in one all things in Christ,' is better rendered by the larger phrase, 'to sum up all things in Christ.' This phrase reveals to us in its highest generality the purpose of our Lord's mission. He came that by His life and work He might so enlarge all minds and change all hearts on earth and in heaven, that, reflecting His image and being transformed into His likeness, they might all be summed up in Him. The vision of redemption thus opened is so vast that it can scarcely be said to have limits on earth or in heaven, in time or in eternity. On a narrower stage, that of humanity, a similar largeness of redeeming purpose is revealed by the better translation of Romans v. 15, 19. Here, instead of 'many,' which would imply the exclusion of some, the New Version, by translating 'the many,' has pointed out that the Greek refers to all—to the multitude, the mass of humanity. And thus we learn that in the Divine purpose the gift of Christ's life was not made to an elect few, but to the whole family of man. We are led towards the same conclusion by the objective cast of many of the new translations. And here it may be necessary to explain what I mean by the word 'objective.' To the production of Christian sanctity two things are necessary—the gift of Christ's life, which is imparted to us; and that state of heart called in the Scriptures 'faith,' which depends, partially at least, upon our own will. Now, what is done to us, and comes to us without our own co-operation, I call the objective element in salvation; while that which is done by us or in us, through our own co-operation, I call its subjective element. Well, then, this being understood, I think you will find that, through the better rendering of Romans vi., the fact is brought out that, in many verses of that chapter, St. Paul is not so much referring to what is done within the believer through his faith, as to what was done for him at a special point of his past history—viz., at his baptism. In verse 4 we read, 'we were buried with him by baptism unto death.' In verse 6, our old man (not 'is crucified, as though the act were continuous and now going on), but 'was' crucified with him at a point of time in the past—our baptism. Again, in the 8th verse we read not if we be dead with Him, if we be in that spiritual condition now; but 'if we died with Him,' in the past objectively, by an act of His grace in our baptism. Through what was then done, ideally and actually by God's grace, we were put in a certain position, and gained a certain relation to God. Therefore the Apostle says (11) that we ought to reckon ourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God,' not 'through Jesus Christ'—as though our death and life might be apart from Him, but 'in Christ Jesus,' even as we are planted in Him at baptism. Of course this grace is given that it may be taken and used. It were of no value else. Accordingly, in verse 12, St. Paul bids us realise subjectively what already is ours objectively by the gift of God in Christ. 'Let not sin, therefore, reign in your mortal bodies that ye should obey it in the lust thereof.' The same definiteness of objective reference is brought out by the better rendering of the tenses in 1 Corinthians vi. 11. It is not 'but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified'—as though reference were made to an abiding state—it is, 'ye were washed, ye were sanctified,' at a definite point of past time in your baptism—that act which marked and denoted your ideal union with Christ. The connection of the objective work of Christ forms, and the subjective work of Christ in us, is further brought out by a better translation of 2 Corinthians v. 14—'We thus judge that one died for all; therefore all died.' The Old Version has it, 'If one died for all, then were all dead,' making the death of Christ the proof of the spiritual death of the natural man. In point of fact, there is not a word here about the death of nature. The point is that there is such a union between Christ and the believer represented ideally in baptism, and realised by faith, that if Christ died to sin, then all died with Him. The practical conclusion follows. If we be dead in Christ ideally, let us take care that really and inwardly we 'no longer live to ourselves but to Him that died for us.' The same thought is emphaticised in Titus iii. 5, though here, unfortunately, the better rendering is put into the margin. The thought of the Apostle is that salvation does not originate in acts of ours, whether emotional or practical, but only in the mercy of God. What then did His mercy do for us? He gave as the laver of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, the outward ordinance of baptism to assure the gift, the inward renewing of the spirit to convert that assurance into a reality. It is almost more wonderful to find 'laver' in the margin than it was to find 'Gehenna' there. 'Loutron' cannot mean the act of washing, but the vessel in which the washing is done. It is translated 'laver' by Bishop Ellicott, the chairman of the Revision Committee, in his new version of the Epistles, and so by nearly all modern scholars. I suppose it was difficult to get a two-thirds majority for its insertion in the text, owing to the significant fact that this is the only text in the New Testament in which the word 'regeneration' is applied to an individual. It is certainly startling to find that on the only occasion of its occurrence it clearly refers to baptism. But there need be no wonder. It is only in accordance with the prevailing objective cast of New Testament language, and it clearly means that baptism is that laver which ideally represents the new birth in which the new life of Christ must begin. It is important to keep in mind this objective view of salvation, that everything necessary to our salvation—the life of Christ, the gift of the Spirit whose office it is to distribute that life and the ordinances of the Church, through which, as through appointed channels, that distribution takes place—that all these are provided for us by the love of God, independently of our faith, not only before we believe, but even before we live. This is the peculiarity of Christianity. Anyone can believe, a Pagan or a Mahommedan not less than a Christian. The difference is revealed when you ask, What shall I believe? and why shall I believe? Here the Gospel presents to your inquiry a new thing—a gift and possibilities unknown in the world before. This newness and uniqueness of the Gospel is well suggested by a better translation of Romans iii. 21, 'But now a righteousness of God has been manifested,' not 'the righteousness,' as though it were a thing already well known; but a righteousness apart from the law which I proceed to describe, 'the righteousness of God through faith in Christ.' I have spoken of the connection of faith with grace, with what went before faith. This leads me next to speak of the connection between faith and its fruits, between it and what should follow it. This is made clearer by a better translation of Galatians ii. 16. The Old Version was, 'A man is not justified by works but by faith,' thus excluding works altogether from connection with justification. The New Version more correctly renders 'A man is not justified by works save through faith,' except so far as works are necessary to indicate the reality of faith. You will see at once that the celebrated opposition in this matter between St. Paul and St. James is already abolished by this rendering. But, in fact, it is made yet more impossible by a better rendering of James ii. 14. We read no longer 'Can faith save him?' as if faith had nothing to do with the matter; but can that faith save him—such a faith as that, which can only make him tremble without obeying? St. Paul is thus plainly seen to say, 'Works cannot save except through faith,' and St. James to say, 'Faith cannot save except it be a fruitful faith.' Suppose, however, that a man has taken the life of Christ by a real faith, a faith which vindicates its reality by works. Another question may here arise—Can the man who has once possessed such faith ever lose it, or must he keep it because of God's predestination? The New Version helps us to give a better answer to this question also. It translates Luke x. 6, 'If a son of peace be there'—not 'if the son of peace be there.' The latter expression would imply that the Apostles should remain, if the Son of God had gone before them and selected the house. The former means if your 'host' be a son of peace, who will receive you. Again, the New Version translates Acts ii. 47, not, 'such as should be saved' by the election of God, but 'such as were being saved' through their own faithful use of God's grace. Again it translates 1 Corinthians i. 18, 'To them that "are perishing" foolishness, to them that are being saved the power of God.' When this passage stood 'to them that perish the Gospel is foolishness,' it might mean that the Gospel appeared foolish to them because they were destined to perdition. But now it can have no such meaning. Those who are perishing through their own wilful disobedience need not finally perish; nor, on the other hand, can it be said that those who are 'being' saved must be ultimately saved. 'Once in grace, always in grace,' is now shown to be an unscriptural sentiment.

"I need make no remark on the effect of the New Version in modifying the doctrine of our Lord's divinity, because it leaves that doctrine untouched. For if it omits the passage, 1 John v. 8, containing a reference to the three heavenly witnesses, and adopts the reading, 'He who,' instead of God in 1 Tim. iii. 16; on the other hand, it translates Titus ii. 13, 'Our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ,' and strengthens the affirmation of Philip. ii. 7, by a better and more intelligible reading.

"The New Version very decidedly accentuates the value of the spiritual element in religion by two improved translations. In Mark vii. 19, we read, not 'purging all meats,' which may mean almost anything, but 'this He said, making all meats clean.' It is difficult for us to conceive the vastness of the spiritual revolution implied in these words. At a time when the great schools of Hillel and Shammai were disputing about the relative importance of blessing the day first or the meat first, Jesus stands up and cries, 'All these things are nought; ye are children of God, and to such "all" meats are clean.' To the Pharisee of that day the utterance of such a sentiment would be as though the heavens had fallen. It deprived him not only of the chief subjects of his mental activity, but of all the cherished reasons for his national and spiritual pride. It made Calvary inevitable. The same paramount authority of the spiritual in religion is implied by that depreciation of asceticism which is brought out so clearly by a better translation of Colossians ii. 23, 'But are not of any value against the indulgence of the flesh.' Here, instead of an utterly unmeaning phrase, we get an uncomprising denunciation of mere outward acts of mortification as a medicine for the soul—in this age a great and distinct gain. Indirectly, too, spiritual religion is relieved of a burden and a difficulty by the omission of John v. 3. This was a description of a miracle taking place regularly, as if by a law of nature, and without any reference to the spiritual condition of the healed. These characteristics put it entirely out of harmony with the New Testament miracles, which are exceptional acts of power rendered credible even more by their adaptation to the great spiritual purpose than by the character and mission of those who wrought them. It is no little relief, then, to find that the passage which recorded a miracle of so different a character is nothing better than a late interpolation.

"I will just notice, in conclusion, that the New Version alters certain texts which have formed the favourite themes of one-sided preachers. It robs one sect of its name. The 'Peculiar People' have gone out of the New Testament. If they want to continue to be Scriptural they must call themselves now 'The people of God's own possession,' for so in the New Version 1 Peter ii. 9 is now translated. Perhaps even to 'Peculiar People' it might savour too much of arrogance to style themselves, as opposed to all other Christians, 'The people of God's own possession.' But I scarcely know. If people are only ignorant and stupid enough, no arrogance appears impossible to them. The New Version omits a text on which a vast number of excited sermons have been preached. Acts viii. 37, 'If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest' (be baptised). Again, it reverses the meaning of Acts xxvi. 28. In the Old Version Agrippa seems to say, 'Thy sermon is so convincing that "almost" it persuadeth me to be a Christian,' whereas in the New Version he is made to say what he was more likely to say, and what he actually said, 'Do you imagine that with so slight an effort as this you can make a Christian of such a man as I am?' I dare say that many preachers will be disappointed at the loss of a favourite text, but, for my part, I think the subject presented by the New Version—viz., the hardening power of sin and the curse of worldly pride—not only far more interesting, but also far more useful.

"Lastly, I may observe that preachers who are always insisting on the necessity of conversion, and are wont at the same time to assign to conversion a peculiar and utterly mythical meaning, will experience, perhaps, some little dismay to find their pet word entirely excluded from the Gospels. It remains only in Acts xv. 3 and James v. 19, and ought not to have been left in either place. But it is hard for a Committee to be consistent. The word formerly translated 'convert' means simply 'turn' or 'turn again,' and refers sometimes to turning the body, and sometimes to turning the mind, sometimes to turning from evil to good, and sometimes to turning from good to evil. In these circumstances there was no alternative but to translate it by a word that would express its large and comprehensive meaning. And nothing but good can result from the change. People will see now that where the word refers to a desirable spiritual change, it merely describes a turning of the mind, whether that turning be made suddenly or gradually, whether with ecstatic phenomena or without them. No doubt this turning is sometimes attended by such phenomena, and is as sudden if not as complete, as a turning of the body. But it is by no means always so. And if one may be permitted to judge who himself experienced a sudden and ecstatic change, it by no means follows that such a form of change has the most sanctifying influence on the character. Our Lord said, 'Except ye turn and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew xviii. 3). Here the thing to be done is to turn the mind from the proud wilfulness of what is called 'manly independence' to a child-like dependence on God. And I may be permitted to repeat that I have sometimes seen this spiritual change more completely effected where the turning was gradual and silent, than where it was sudden and ecstatic.

"I have now finished my task, and it is natural for you to ask what is the result of all this? Just what I told you at first. The net result is a decided drift, a tendency to obliterate some of the sterner features of the old translations. There is a fuller statement of the spirituality of our holy faith, of the universality of the love of God, and of the long-suffering grace which will condemn none till his moral probation is fairly completed. There is besides a clearer exhibition of the symbolic character of those passages which describe the nature of future punishment, and the uncertainty of many of the expressions which describe its duration. And these alterations are not made capriciously. They are not made in obedience to any critical theory. They are not due to any effort to adapt the text either to the supposed historical necessities of the first century, or to the beliefs and speculations of the nineteenth century. If any change has been made in the text it is on the authority of more ancient and reliable manuscripts and versions. And though I admit that the new translation sometimes mars the delicate balance and harmony of the matchless English of the Old Version, as in 1 Cor. xiii., yet it does this only from an anxious desire to render more exactly the meaning of the original. This being the case, it is surely very interesting to notice that the drift of change observable in the new translation is in the same direction as the drift of all healthy change in modern thought—in that direction which is indicated in the well-known words of St. John—'Perfect love casteth out fear, because fear hath torment.' I draw an augury of the brightest hope from this fact. It proves to me, at least, that the general drift of modern thought is healthy and truthful. May we not, then, humbly hope that, if men will only be sincere and patient, scientists on the one side and theologians on the other, enlarging knowlege will bring us, not a diminution, but an increase of faith—a faith, it may be, of a different tone and temper, but which is made all the more confident and assured quite as much by what it loses as by what it gains?"

MARRIAGE OF MDLLE. SARAH BERNHARDT.

Mdlle. Sarah Bernhardt was married in London on Tuesday morning. The ceremony took place in the church of St. Andrew's, Wells-street, Oxford-street, in the parish of St. Marylebone, the bridegroom being M. Damala, a Greek gentleman. The bride and bridegroom presented themselves to the officiating clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Greenwood, assistant-curate, at half-past ten a.m. They were attended by only one gentleman and one lady, and these, with the verger of the church, were the sole witnesses of the marriage. Mdlle. Bernhardt, the bridegroom, and friends in attendance arrived in two hansom cabs from 55, Berners-street, the address given as the residence of the contracting parties. The marriage was by licence, which, when the party arrived at the church, it was found had been forgotten and had to be sent for. The ceremony had subsequently to be hurried over in consequence of eleven o'clock Matins. The responses were made in English by both bride and bridegroom, though M. Damala is said to be very little acquainted with the language. After the ceremony the party entered the vestry and signed the register, the signatories being the contracting couple, their two attendants, and Mr. Henderson, verger. Then the party returned in cabs to 55, Berners-street. Mdme. Damala, soon afterwards sent for a copy of the register, which she had neglected to obtain before leaving the church. The strictest secrecy has been observed in connection with the marriage. The Rev. Mr. Gibbs, in answer to a remark on the state of the marriage law, said that "in its present scandalous condition" a clergyman was bound to celebrate the marriage service on a licence being presented to him by any couple who would reply *pro formâ* to the few questions required to be put. Mdlle. Bernhardt is understood to have arrived in London from Naples on the previous day for the ceremony. After the marriage, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, she visited the Gaiety Theatre with M. Meyer, her manager, in order to have an interview with Mr. Hollingshead, who, however, is out of town. It is stated that the marriage will not affect the engagements entered into by Mdlle. Bernhardt to appear at the Gaiety Theatre in May and June next. M. Damala is stated in one quarter to be a gentleman of wealth, and, on the other hand, to be likely to appear at the Gaiety with his wife as her lover in *La Dame aux Camélias*. He appears to be of middle age and full height, and is said to be a fine-looking man. Mdlle. Bernhardt was married in ordinary walking costume, the most noticeable feature of which was a very long and handsome sealskin cloak, close-fitting and trimmed with fur. She left with M. Damala last night by the mail train from Charing-cross for the Continent, *en route* for Barcelona. She is announced to play in Madrid to-morrow (Sunday).

The *Law Journal* says:—

"The marriage of the lady known to the world as Sarah Bernhart, at the Church of St. Andrew, Wells-street, although it appears to have scandalised the clergyman in charge, differs but little from the most orthodox ceremony at St. George's, Hanover-square. M. Damala, before he could have obtained the licence, must have made an affidavit that there was no lawful impediment, and that he had resided within the parish for fifteen days, in the very same terms as the bridegroom of a marriage in high life who takes lodgings in Mayfair for that period. The clergyman must perform the ceremony unless he has very good grounds for suspecting that the licence has been obtained by a fraud, the only exception being the case of a divorced person, whom the clergyman is not bound to marry, but for whose marriage he is bound to lend his church. No doubt the arrival of Sarah Bernhardt from Naples the night before, and her departure for Barcelona on the same day, was a little more hurried than the usual journey from the country to London before, and the start on the honeymoon after a wedding at St. George's; but a foreigner may marry in England without being domiciled here, and the marriage, so far as the forms are concerned, and apart from any question of personal disability, is valid in this country, and probably all over the world."

We are informed that the marriage did not take place under the ordinary marriage licence of the Archbishop, but that the licence must have been obtained elsewhere. The Archbishop's registries at Doctors' Commons were searched on Wednesday morning, and no affidavit praying the licence was found.

STATISTICS OF LONDON AND SUBURBAN CHURCHES.

The following Table appears in Mackeson's *Guide to the Churches of London and its Suburbs, for* 1882 (sixteenth year) just published under the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishops of London, Winchester, St. Albans, Rochester, and Bedford:—

Churches	1880	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1881	1882
Number corrected (a)	630	651	677	694	710	725	734	757	770	784	797	813	828
Weekly Holy Communion	144	164	164	170	174	178	181	186	189	194	196	202	205
Daily Holy Communion (b)	11	20	23	25	26	27	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
Early Holy Communion	135	159	210	221	232	242	252	263	273	284	294	304	314
Choral Holy Communion	41	63	98	107	114	122	129	137	144	151	158	165	172
Evening Holy Communion	66	97	150	161	170	179	187	196	205	214	222	232	241
Saints' Day Service	136	168	190	196	202	208	214	220	226	232	238	244	250
Daily Service	113	132	135	138	141	144	147	150	153	156	159	162	165
No Weekday Service	123	104	119	122	125	128	131	134	137	140	143	146	149
Choral Service (c)	125	133	146	150	154	158	162	166	170	174	178	182	186
Partly Choral Service	95	115	170	175	180	185	190	195	200	205	210	215	220
Paid Choirs (d)	114	117	151	155	159	163	167	171	175	179	183	187	191
Volunteer Choirs	54	88	130	134	138	142	146	150	154	158	162	166	170
Gregorian Tones (e)	535	531	544	558	572	586	600	614	628	642	656	670	684
Weekly Offertory (f)	106	133	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64
Free Seats	49	65	102	105	108	111	114	117	120	123	126	129	132
Eucharistic Vestments	14	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Surplice in Pulpit	1	63	130	134	138	142	146	150	154	158	162	166	170
Incense	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Open for Private Prayer	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Shortened Service	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Floral Decoration (g)	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Dedication Festival kept	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Altar Lights	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Eastward Position	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Candles on Altar	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38

* The information supplied in the "GUIDE" for 1866, 1867, and 1868 referred only to a small number of points; the statistics for those years are, therefore, omitted in this table.

(a) The corrected Number includes those Churches only with reference to which information is given on the majority of the above points.

(b) In one case there is a double daily celebration in the same district, viz., at St. Barnabas, Pimlico, in the Church and in the Mission Chapel.

(c) In twenty of these Churches the Service is only Fully Choral on Sunday evenings.

(d) In about ninety of these Churches the Choir is only partly paid.

(e) In many of these Churches the Tones are only partially used.

(f) Special efforts have been made to secure an accurate return on this head, and only those churches are included where the offertory is stated to be collected from the whole congregation on Sunday morning and evening.

(g) Churches only are included where Floral Decorations are the rule at other seasons than Christmas.

The secretary of the Hall of Science, at 142, Old-street, St. Luke's, announced last Sunday that it is intended to hold a ball on Easter Sunday at the hall. The members would attend at seven o'clock as usual for the lecture, but dancing would commence at nine o'clock, and he hoped that they would have a fine time of it.

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ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,

COVENT GARDEN, LIMITED.

THE OPERA SEASON OF 1882 WILL COMMENCE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18th.

The following are the arrangements for the Season, and they will be adhered to as nearly as circumstances will permit:—

ENGAGEMENTS:

Madame ADELINA PATTI,
Madame SEMBRICH,
Madame FURSCH-MADIER,
Mademoiselle OLGA BERGHI
(Her First Appearance in England),
Mademoiselle ALWINA VALLERIA,
Mademoiselle VELMI,
Mademoiselle GUERCIA,
Mademoiselle SONNINO,
Madame CORSI,
AND
Madame ALBANI
(Court Singer to H.M. the Emperor of Germany).

An engagement has also been arranged with
Madame PAULINE LUCCA,
Who will appear, during the Season, in several of the Characters by which she gained her great reputation in England.

Madame TREBELLI,
Mademoiselle GHIOTTI,
AND
Mademoiselle AMELIE STAHL
(Her First Appearance in England).

Signor NICOLINI,
Signor MIERZWINSKY,
Signor LESTELLIER
(His First Appearance in England),
Monsieur VERGNET,
Signor FRAPOLLI
(His First Appearance at the Royal Italian Opera),
Signor MASSART
(His First Appearance in England),
Monsieur SOULACROIX,
Signor IGENIO CORSI,
Signor MANFREDI,
Signor FILLE,
AND
Signor MASINI.

Signor COTOGNI,
Monsieur BOUHY
(His First Appearance in England),
Signor MAURICE DEVRIES
(His First Appearance in England),
Monsieur DUFRICHE
(His First Appearance in England),
Signor UGHETTI,
AND
Signor PANDOLFINI.

Monsieur GAILHARD,
Monsieur DAUPHIN,
Monsieur GRESSE,
Signor SILVESTRI,
Signor SCOLARA,
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PRINCIPAL DANSEUSES.

Mademoiselle ADELINA GEDDA
(Her First Appearance in England),
Mademoiselle L. REUTERS,
Mademoiselle E. REUTERS,
Mademoiselle REUTERS.

Maestro al Piano	Signor BISACCIA.
Assistant Stage Manager	Signor LAGO.
Principal Violin Solo	Mr. CARRODUS.
Leader of the Military Band	Herr L. SAAR.
Leader of the Ballet	Mr. BETJEMANN.
Organist	Mr. PITTMAN.
Maitre de Ballet	Mons. HANSEN.
Suggeritori	Signor FORTUNATI and Signor SONNINO.
Repetiteur de Chœur	Signor CARLO CORSI.
Decorator	Mr. LABHART.
Machinist	Mr. WHITE.

The *personnel* of

THE ORCHESTRA,

As well as that of

THE CHORUS,

Will remain nearly the same as last Season.

It is announced, with great regret, that in consequence of failing health, Signor TAGLIAFICO, who has been connected with the *Royal Italian Opera*, as Artiste, and, latterly, as Stage Manager, for over Thirty Years, is compelled to resign his position.

STAGE MANAGER.—Monsieur LAPISSIDA (of the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels).

ARTISTES COSTUMIERES.—Madame DUBREUIL, Monsieur FEIGNAERT, &c., &c.

SCENIC ARTISTS.—Mr. DAYES, Mr. CANEY, and Assistants.

REPERTOIRE.

L'Africaine...	Meyerbeer	Linda di Chamouni	Donizetti
L'Etoile du Nord	Meyerbeer	Norma	Bellini
Les Huguenots	Meyerbeer	La Sonnambula	Bellini
Dinorah	Meyerbeer	I Puritani	Bellini
Roberto il Diavolo...	Meyerbeer	La Traviata	Verdi
Le Prophète	Meyerbeer	Il Trovatore	Verdi
Don Giovanni	Mozart	Rigoletto	Verdi
Le Nozze di Figaro	Mozart	Ballo in Maschera	Verdi
Il Flauto Magico	Mozart	Don Carlos	Verdi
Il Seraglio	Mozart	Ernani	Verdi
Il Barbiere di Siviglia	Rossini	Luisa Miller	Verdi
Guglielmo Tell	Rossini	Aida...	Verdi
Otello	Rossini	Martha	Flotow
La Gazza Ladra	Rossini	Alma l'Incantatrice	Flotow
Semiramide	Rossini	Fra Diavolo	Auber
Lucrezia Borgia	Donizetti	Masaniello	Auber
Don Pasquale	Donizetti	Le Domino Noir	Auber
La Favorita	Donizetti	Les Diamans de la Couronne	Auber
Lucia di Lammermoor	Donizetti	Fidelio	Beethoven
La Figlia del Reggimento	Donizetti	Orfeo	Glück
L'Elisir d'Amore	Donizetti	Faust e Margherita	Gounod
Romeo e Giulietta	Gounod		
Crispino e la Comar	Ricci		
Der Freischütz	Weber		
Hamlet	Thomas		
Mignon	Thomas		
Esmeralda	Campana		
Le Astuzie Femminili	Cimarosa		
Gelmina	Poniatowski		
Il Guarany	Gomez		
Lohengrin...	Wagner		
Tannhäuser	Wagner		
Il Vascello Fantasma	Wagner		
La Vispe Comare di Windsor	Nicolai		
Paolo e Virginia	Victor Massé		
Santa Chiara	The Duke of Saxe Coburg		
Les Amants de Verona	Marquis d'Ivry		
Il Re di Lahore	Massenet		
Le Pré aux Clercs...	Herold		
Estella	Cohen		
Il Demonio	Rubinstein		

During the Season a Selection will be made of those Operas of the foregoing Répertoire which have, from time to time, proved to be the most acceptable to the Subscribers and the Public; in addition to which will be produced,

LENEPVEU'S Opera,
"VELLEDA,"
Principal Characters by
Madame ADELINA PATTI,
Signor NICOLINI.

BOITO'S Opera,
"MEFISTOFELE,"
Principal Characters by
Madame ALBANI,
Madame TREBELLI,
Monsieur BOUHY,
Signor MASINI.

BIZET'S Opera,
"CARMEN,"
And, if time should permit, towards the end of the Season,
MASSENET'S Opera,
"HERODIADE,"
Principal Characters by
Madame ALBANI,
Mademoiselle STAHL,
Signor MIERZWINSKY.

An entirely New Italian Version has been made of
"IL FLAUTO MAGICO,"
Principal Characters by
Madame SEMBRICH,
Madame FURSCH-MADIER,
Mademoiselle VALLERIA,
Signori COTOGNI, VERGNET, and GRESSE.

MEYERBEER'S Opera,
"L'AFRICAINE,"
Will also be given, during the Season, with the following powerful Cast:

Selika	Madame PAULINE LUCCA,
	AND
Inez	Madame ALBANI,
Vasco di Gama..	Signor LESTELLIER,
Nelusco	Signor PANDOLFINI,

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ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN, MARCH, 1882.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, APRIL 8.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Prince BISMARCK is, in the opinion of the German Liberals, well on his way to Canossa, and they consider that a fresh stage of his journey is marked by by the appointment of Herr VON SCHLOZER as Prussian Minister to the Vatican. The resumption of diplomatic relations with the Pope, after a cessation of nearly eight years, is no doubt a step of considerable importance, showing that the Man of Blood and Iron has found that the successor of ST. PETER is a more formidable opponent than he had expected, and that the *rôle* of a German Lord PENZANCE, which he had himself adopted, is not suited to his genius. The promulgation of the doctrines of civil and religious liberty, by imprisoning Bishops in Germany, has not proved a success, and the method adopted of securing a Free Church in a Free State, was better suited to the days of the TUDORS than to the times on which the present representative of the HOHENZOLLERNS has fallen. The favourable reception by the EMPEROR of the Conservative deputation, the assent of Prince BISMARCK to the amendment of the May Laws, which, despite of semi-official denials, cannot be separated from Herr SCHLOZER'S mission, are all indications of a new stage of the Kulturkampf. In the struggle between Ultramontanism and Irreligion, of which Germany is likely to be the scene, the inclination of the Government is to the side represented by a LEO XIII. rather than the side represented by a BRADLAUGH or a PAUL BERT.

The murderers of General STRELINKOFF were hanged on Monday, having been tried by Court-martial on the preceding Saturday. It had at first been intended to allow them a yet shorter shrift, and orders had been sent by telegram for their immediate execution without waiting for the formality of a trial. A better and a wiser resolution on the part of the CZAR overruled these counsels, dictated by fear as well as by indignation, though, as there was no doubt of the guilt of the perpetrators of the cruel crime, who were caught almost in the act, if ever the primitive plan of hanging first and trying afterwards could with propriety have been reverted to, it would be in such a case of red-handed assassination. The criminals, who were both quite young, refused to disclose their real names, but frankly acknowledged their crime, avowing that they were acting as agents of a secret society which had reason to dread the energy with which their victim had discharged his official duties. This is a very alarming incident in the struggle between the Russian Government and the powerful *imperium in imperio* which is growing up in its midst like that in Ireland. Nor is it likely to diminish the panic which has filled the unhappy Sovereign who now finds himself a prisoner in his own palace, fearing an assassin in every stranger, a conspiracy in every gathering of his people. The exhortation addressed to him not long since by the Moscow PATRIARCH to come forward boldly and face the dangers which threaten him, is not likely to fall on more willing ears when zeal and fidelity in the Imperial service are alleged as sufficient motives for the assassination of anyone who displays them. Nor can it be any longer doubted that the infection has spread even to the Imperial Guard itself, and that a Nihilist propaganda is at work in one at least of the regiments composing it. The revolutionary party which claims the title of moderate has also avowed its intention of adopting this policy of the dagger and the bomb, which has hitherto been left to their more extreme section, and a proclamation threatening the life of the CZAR, should he refuse to grant the constitutional reforms which are being urged upon him, has been posted at the corners of the streets of St. Petersburg.

Lord LANSDOWNE did good service when, on Friday week, he called the attention of the House of Lords to the Irish jury system. One of the great difficulties which has to be faced by those who would yet maintain the supremacy of the law in that unhappy country—though the attempt has not the high authority of the PREMIER, who states that the only powers still in existence there are the Land League and the Land Act—is that it is impossible under the present system to obtain a conviction however clear may be the evidence. An Irish jury, as at present constituted, is sure to contain at least some one person who, either from fear of the consequences, or from a genuine sympathy with the criminal, will refuse to convict a criminal even if caught red-handed in the act. There is much to be said in such a condition of things for the transfer of the duties of the jury to some less unsatisfactory tribunal. No doubt it is somewhat of a shock to the Liberal mind to find that it is under a Liberal Administration that the necessity for so sweeping a measure should first have arisen; but, after all, there is less violation of Liberal principles in the substitution of a Commission of two or more Judges for a jury than in the arrest and detention of untried persons, which is the form of coercion most acceptable at the present time to the Liberal CHIEF SECRETARY for IRELAND. We are not complaining by any means of the coercive measures of Mr. FORSTER, or of the vigour and determination with which, now that he has once aroused himself from the mesmeric slumber into which he had been cast by the powers of his Chief, he is preparing to take up the cause of law and order, which had been too long sacrificed to the necessity of the Land Act: on the contrary we would wish to support rather than criticise that vigour and determination. But we must own that we cannot see the distinction which it is attempted to draw between the wholesale arrests without trial under the Coercion Act and the temporary suspension of trial by jury. The latter is a stringent and exceptional measure, but so also is the former—and the only difference between them is, that one has been tried and failed, and the other has not. Nor is it only in the impunity of crime which results from a maintenance of the jury system that its mischief lies. It is a serious discouragement to the honest if not very courageous witness of the ordinary type, on whom the law has to rely to bring offenders to justice. When it is quite clear that under no possible circumstances can a conviction be obtained—and this is the result of recent experience in Ireland—the one motive which can induce a witness to face the danger and unpopularity of coming forward to speak the truth is taken away. A man who knows that the only result of his evidence will be to make himself an object of hatred to his neighbours, and probably also an object of their musketry practice, has no encouragement to come forward and speak the truth, merely to enable his fellow-countrymen to return a verdict in direct opposition to the oath which they have taken on entering the witness-box.

On the same night in the House of Commons, Mr. GLADSTONE announced, in reply to Mr. ASHMEAD BARTLETT, the intention of the Government to adhere firmly to their scheme of *clôture*, for which they had won such unwilling support from so many a *medicin malgré lui* in regard to the drastic prescriptions which so commend themselves to Mr. GLADSTONE'S system of treatment of constitutional diseases. But despite these brave words, there is a general opinion that, on the renewal of the debate about a month hence, the Ministers will find it necessary to do something to soothe the outraged feelings of their reluctant supporters. The ingenuity with which, as we pointed out last week, the question then under discussion was perverted from that of *clôture* by a bare majority to that of any *clôture* at all, was successful in winning votes for the time but it left an enormous deal still open for discussion. Some one hundred and ten amendments of the procedure resolutions are already placed upon the paper, and the great propounder of the gag scheme will find that at each remove he drags a lengthening chain. At the same time, it must be admitted that last week's division may fairly be construed into an approval of the principle of a *clôture* of some kind, although that principle is diametrically opposed to all the traditions of England, who, having been long regarded as the mother of Parliaments, is now relegated to the less honourable position of a stepmother. It is worthy of consideration that, on all analogy, so important a change in the Constitution ought not to be carried out by a bare majority of the whole House. In an ordinary Limited Company the articles of association cannot be so altered, and it is generally requisite to obtain at least a two-thirds majority before any alteration which affects the fundamental articles of its constitution acquires validity. But it seems that 318 members out of 637 are entitled to subvert a fundamental article of that venerable Company limited—the English House of Commons. Despite Mr. GLADSTONE'S prave 'orts, there is a general impression that some concession will have to be made to those members of the majority who had not the courage to abstain from voting as Mr. ANDERSON did, though hating the *clôture* pure and simple as much as he hated it. Sir John LUBBOCK, who went into the lobby against Mr. MARRIOTT'S amendment, has himself one on the paper, requiring at least a two-thirds majority. Mr. GIBSON'S amendment, which is well calculated to make *clôture* as inoffensive as it is possible for so un-English and un-Parliamentary a system to be, is likely to meet with a large measure of support. It is, indeed, possible that the same tactics of threatened dissolution and a question of confidence may be again employed to procure its rejection. But these tactics lose their effect by repetition, and it is more likely that an attempt will be made to conciliate instead of bullying those members of the Liberal party who are unwilling entirely to abandon the ancient privileges of the House, merely to put themselves into the hands of a self-appointed Dictator.

We by no means share that profound admiration for the present HOME SECRETARY which is entertained by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT; nor, we must add, are we entirely convinced that his interpellation of Mr. ANDERSON in the lobby of the House, on the subject of the latter's outspoken denunciation of the *clôture*, was merely a fresh manifestation of the elephantine playfulness and good-humoured tolerance of opposition for which he is remarkable. But, at the same time, we think that he has been hardly used in having that private conversation solemnly brought before the attention of the House by the irrepressible Mr. CALLAN. It might fairly have been resented by Mr. ANDERSON himself as an additional instance of that interference with the freedom of action of individual Liberals, of which he had so bitterly complained in the speech which gave Sir WILLIAM the occasion for pouring out his precious balms on the head of the member for Glasgow; and it might have been complained of by Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR as an interference with the exclusive right of the Government Whip to wallop his own niggers. But as the latter was not disposed to quarrel with this clumsy attempt to assist him in his arduous duties in consideration of the good intentions of his volunteer colleague, and as the former felt perfectly competent to hold his own against the terrors as well as the blandishments of Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, it was no one else's business to interfere. As far as the public were concerned the revelations of this private conversation added nothing beyond the fact already sufficiently well known, that undue pressure has been put upon the conscience of the recalcitrant Liberals. But it is an unfortunate indication of the lowering of the tone of gentlemanly feeling in the House, that private conversations accidentally overheard should become public property, and that members should be ready to report what they so overhear, and other members to found questions upon it, without the sanction of either of the interlocutors.

The revenue returns for the past year are now published, and do not show that progress by leaps

and bounds which we were taught to expect as the natural and inevitable result of the presence of Mr. Gladstone in Downing-street. The improvement in trade has not as yet had a corresponding effect in increasing the consuming powers of the people, and does not give ground for an estimate of a large increase of revenue for the new financial year on which we have just entered. It is in the last quarter of the year now past that the falling off is most marked, which is in itself an unsatisfactory sign, and the want of elasticity in what may be regarded as the test departments of Customs, Excise, and Stamps, is of yet more ominous significance. Of course to those who regard Mr. Gladstone as a Heaven-born financier, and are content to regard any excess of revenue over his under-estimates as a proof of his marvellous skill, it is something little short of heresy to hint doubt or hesitate dislike of his financial policy. But even favourable critics are compelled to admit that the national expenditure has exceeded the amount at which it was estimated by over seven hundred thousand pounds, and that the extent to which the revenue has benefited by the improvement of trade is very small. We do not desire to retaliate on the Ministry now in office the criticisms which they were wont to employ when in Opposition, or to assert that the greater or less improvement in the revenue is the one infallible test of the fitness of the occupants of the Ministerial benches for the time being. But the official returns for 1881-2 refute the suggestion that prosperity is on the side of the Liberals, which has taken the place of poor Sir Archibald Alison's contention that Providence was on the side of the Tories. Nor is it without significance that, under the present economical *régime*, the expenditure has reached nearly eighty-five millions and a-half, the highest rate since the Crimean war.

The Paddington Park Bill has been thrown out by the Select Committee, and, much as we may deplore the loss of the prospect of an additional lung for a part of London which is likely before long to stand sorely in need of it, we cannot find fault with the decision. The owners of the land over which it was sought to acquire compulsory powers of purchase had a fair right to demand that, before these powers were granted it should be shown that the promoters of the Bill were financially in a position to carry out their purchase. This was certainly not shown to be the case, despite the liberal offer of support to a scheme excellent in itself made by the Board of Works. Public spirit, which has done so much in provincial towns to supply public parks, seems to be lacking in London, where there is certainly no less wealth but not quite the same readiness to employ it for such a purpose. We do not say that the rich men of London are more selfish than their brethren in other towns, but London is so large that it is more difficult for the rich man to identify himself with it than is the case in other towns. This, though not unnatural, is much to be regretted, and it is to be hoped that the rejection of the Paddington Park Bill may bring good out of evil by suggesting to some of our Metropolitan millionaires the propriety of following the example of their country cousins, and coming forward with a liberal gift which will secure this very desirable object without rendering it necessary to add to the already heavy burdens of the overweighted ratepayers.

The loss of life in the collision off Finisterre is much less than was at first feared, only four of the passengers and eleven of the crew of the *Douro* being now reported missing. But among the latter we have to deplore the loss of the gallant captain, who, by holding firmly to his post and by his coolness, contributed so much to the safety of those committed to his charge, for whose lives he was prepared to sacrifice his own. The Spanish vessel was less fortunate, as it would seem that fifteen of the crew and a like number of passengers remain to be accounted for. Hopes are, however, still entertained that some of these may have been picked up by other vessels. The Royal Mail Steam Company, to which the *Douro* belonged, were at one time peculiarly unfortunate, though of late years they have not experienced so serious a loss as that now to be entered on the wrong side of their account. We are at present not in a position to give judgment as to the cause of the collision; but it will, probably, turn out to be yet another case in which the melancholy verdict—"somebody blundered"—will have to be recorded, as a collision in the open sea is a comparatively rare event, and would seem to be less excusable than in narrower and more crowded waters. It is, however, to be hoped, and we believe it may be fairly anticipated, that the blunder will not turn out to have been committed by the experienced officer who closed a long and blameless career by dying at his post.

The University Boatrace, which took place on Saturday, resulted, as was anticipated, in the triumph of the Isis over the Cam. Neither crew was quite up to the usual mark, but there can be no doubt that of the two the victors were the better men. Enormous crowds assembled on the banks to witness the struggle, the weather being unusually favourable, and the time at which the race was rowed being better suited to the convenience of the general public than the more early hour at which enthusiasts for the Dark and the Light Blues have been summoned from their beds of late years. But except as a pleasurable day's outing there was little to reward the spectators on the present occasion, the so-called race being in reality a mere procession, with Oxford leading and Cambridge nowhere. The main interest of the result, other than its adding one more to the narrow majority of Oxford in these great contests, was the refutation afforded by it to the theory that a very light stroke, with heavy men behind him, is no good. Mr. Higgins has shown that skill is more important than weight for the position which he occupied, and for the future we shall find that the claims to that position *numerantur non ponderantur*. Another aquatic contest, which has caused no less excitement in the North than the University race has in the South, was that between the Tyne oarsman and the Canadian champion, which has ended in a victory of the latter at Newcastle, no less marked than the Oxford victory at Mortlake. Despite the plucky rowing of Boyd, amid the sympathetic enthusiasm of his fellow-townsmen—we hall shortly have to say his fellow-citizens—the skill of his Canadian rival prevailed, and the Championship of the World remains with Hanlan, whose wonderful powers and scientific superiority must make all but the most severe critics pardon the tendency to swagger and show off which somewhat mar their effect. It was certainly a triumph of superior skill rather than of superior strength, and we must own that after the defeat of Boyd we have no option but to admit that there is no professional in England who can come near the Canadian.

THE ANTE-PASCHAL SESSION.

Parliament has separated for its holiday—we suppose we ought, in politeness, to say, its well-earned holiday. But if we were to say so would that—as Mr. Chadband was wont to observe—be terewth? If the principle of payment by results were adopted, there would be little pay earned by the work of the Ante-Paschal Session. It is not on its negative results that we should wish to dwell, and it is not what has been left undone which will weigh most heavily on the conscience of the M.P. during his brief holiday. As we have before observed, legislative inactivity is far preferable to legislative activity, with a House of Commons like that now in existence, with a Government like that which is now found on the Treasury Bench. For the welfare of the country does not really depend on the number of the Acts of Parliament which are passed in a Session, even if we could secure their all being good ones, which would be a bold assumption in any case, a reckless assumption when we remember who would in the present Session have to originate them, and the composition of the body through which they would have to be passed. The loss of legislation on the Radical lines which would alone prove acceptable to the Triumvirate, so far from being a loss, is a positive advantage, and friends of the established order of things in State and Church are glad of the breathing-time afforded by a barren session. Burial Bills and Public Worship Regulation Acts and measures for the abolition of sisters-in-law are not necessaries of life to the English Churchman. Electoral Districts, Manhood Suffrage, a Land Law for England on the model of that for Ireland, are not absolutely essential to the happiness of the English Conservative. Indeed, if we could ensure that the present House of Commons should run its course without passing any mischievous measures, we should be inclined to sacrifice our chance of any useful ones, trusting to find in the next House of Commons, when the pendulum shall have swung back again, a body to which we could with more security entrust any legislative measures for the good of the country.

It is not, therefore, for their fruitlessness of legislative results that the months which have passed since Her Majesty's most gracious Speech at the opening of the Session, with its rich promise of such results, are to be looked back upon with anything but satisfaction. There have been plenty of words though very few Acts; and the four most marked features in the Parliamentary history of those months are the Bradlaugh episode, the attack on the House of Lords, the *clôture*, and the Irish discussions. On the first of these Mr. Gladstone himself can hardly look back with much satisfaction. Not only has he felt himself compelled to stand forward as the champion of the chosen of Northampton, repugnant as this must have been to the nobler side of his character; but he has not had even the consolation for the injury done to his better self of having been successful in carrying out the object for which he lowered that better self. The well-disciplined majority—which, though not as a rule so much troubled with scruples as their leader, does not possess the same happy knack of overcoming the few scruples which do affect it—declined on this occasion to follow his lead, and showed that his patronage of Atheism was not only a crime but a party blunder. The onslaught on the House of Lords and the *clôture* division were victories. The latter is, however, but the beginning of a series of conflicts, and the rough strain which it has inflicted on the party ties to which it is due, renders it a victory only less sad than a defeat. The former, though it did no practical good or harm, served its purpose of reuniting the party which the latter has done much again to scatter. And the cruel irony of fate has shown that the much-abused House of Lords were in the right, and the great Parliamentary despot in the wrong. Hardly had the vote of censure been passed, when the Ministers had to acknowledge that their Land Act was not the faultless monster which they had pictured it to be, and that a belief in its defects and shortcomings was not a mere hallucination of the Upper House. Indeed, we now find that even the stanchest of the supporters of Mr. Gladstone among our contemporaries—the *Pall Mall Gazette*—feels obliged to "face the facts," and finds that the facts, when faced, are very different from what it pleased that journal to represent them to be while it was blowing blasts of defiance against Lord Salisbury and Lord Donoughmore through its penny trumpet. The confession that the boasted Land Act is a failure cannot be any longer withheld, and the discovery of it has been quickened by the determination of the Conservative leaders to introduce a measure for the better carrying out of that part of the Ministerial scheme which was less mischievous, and therefore has been allowed to fall into abeyance—the affording of facilities for the acquisition by tenants of their freeholds. The question of peasant proprietors is a large one, and any such scheme as that shadowed forth by Mr. W. H. Smith will require very careful consideration. But the mere prospect of it has wonderfully awakened the Liberals from their complacent view of the Land Act, and of the improvement which it has brought about in the condition of Ireland. That improvement is evidenced by the long list of landlords on whose estates the No-rent doctrine is rigidly enforced, by the murders of Mr. Herbert and Mrs. Smythe, by the narrow escape of other and more fortunate victims, by the long catalogue of unpunished, not undetected, crimes which Mr. Gorst brought under the notice of Parliament before its rising. This gave occasion to not the least important of the many Irish discussions which have marked the present Session, by which, in season and out of season, often but, by no means always, through the obstructive tactics of the Irish members, the progress of legislative business has been delayed, while Ireland has blocked the way. So serious is the question of the present condition of that unhappy land, so great are the difficulties which it presents to English statesmen, so absolutely essential is it for the welfare of the Empire at large that some solution of those difficulties should be found, so absolute and entire is the failure of the much-vaunted patent medicine of Mr. Gladstone, that we can hardly say that these topics have occupied too much of the attention of Parliament. It is indeed difficult to give due attention to any other subject at so terrible a crisis, and the journalist must sometimes seem to his readers, like the politician, to have Ireland on the brain. There is something which, were not the situation so grave, would be laughable in Mr. Gladstone's attempt to throw a large share of the responsibility for the present state of things on his predecessor. Lord Beaconsfield, *risum teneatis amici*, is blamed by the very man who derided his warnings in that now historical letter to the Duke of Marlborough for not having put down the Land League in its first inception, though Mr. Gladstone's favourite colleague has emphatically pronounced the original objects of the Land League to have been not only loyal but even praiseworthy. Mr. Gladstone himself in earlier days, before Mr. Parnell exposed the feebleness of his bantling—it is well in order to avoid any confusion like that occasioned by the reference to the Infant Hercules to say that we do not mean by this Mr. Herbert Gladstone, but the Land Act—regarded his operations with no unfavourable eye, and has only now awakened to the fact that the arbitrary choice of rent and the right to dissolve contracts out of which the no rent theory has been evolved, were the original principles of that powerful organisation. These original principles, by the way, were embodied in Mr. Gladstone's own Land Act, so that it is rather hard that he should turn round and denounce his predecessor for not having suppressed the organisation which first put them forward. The fact is that Mr. Gladstone stole Mr. Parnell's clothes while bathing, and now finds fault with Lord Beaconsfield for having allowed the original owner to wear them.

AMERICAN INTERFERENCE.

The respite of the murderer Lamson at the request of the President of the United States, marks a new era in international relations, and the precedent which the Home Secretary has thus set is a somewhat dangerous one. It is certainly a curious development of the *Civis Romanus* doctrine, and though we are assured that the concession made to President Arthur would have been as readily made to the Emperor of Austria, or the King of Greece, or any other European ruler, the natural rejoinder is, that we can hardly fancy anyone except an American President asking such a concession. The poisoning of a poor cripple for the paltry sum of £1,500 does not rise to the dignity of a political offence, and the fact that the poisoner claims the rights of an American citizen does not confer upon him the further right of administering aconitine to his brother-in-law in England. It is very desirable that the principle of not allowing the intervention of any foreign prince or potentate in the administration of justice by an English Court should be upheld; and it should be remembered by *Historicus* that within this realm of England the Queen is supreme in all causes, not only ecclesiastical but also civil. The sufficiency or insufficiency of the ground on which the interference is rested is not in itself so important. It is the interference itself of which we complain. If we could conceive it possible that some gross and palpable miscarriage of justice were to take place, which for some extraordinary reason the friends of the victim were not successful in bringing under the notice of the English authorities, they might, perhaps, without impropriety, invoke the aid of the Ruler to whom that victim owed allegiance. But such a supposition involves so many improbabilities that we may safely dismiss it from our consideration, and in the present case the circumstances under which this unprecedented interference with the course of English justice to gratify a foreign Power has been passively submitted to makes the ignominy of the situation even greater. It is said that the American Attorney-General has given an opinion that if the evidence now on its way had been produced at the trial, it would have caused the acquittal of the prisoner on the ground of insanity. But the fact of some of his relations having suffered from puerperal mania and others from senile dementia would not have gone very far with an English jury, however convincing it may be to an American Attorney General. Nor even if there be hereditary insanity in a family, does that give unlimited license to every member of the family to commit murder with impunity. If the defence of insanity had been raised at the trial, the question would have been whether Lamson was so far insane that he was unaware that he was committing murder when he administered the aconitine to his unhappy victim. It will require very strong evidence to persuade any reasonable man outside the criminal's own family that such was the case, and the opinion of his own family cannot carry much weight when they carefully kept it back till after the trial. Putting aside for the moment the additional complication caused by the respite having been granted under pressure from abroad, there is a natural prejudice against a case of insanity, even a strong case, being set up after other defences have been tried and failed. It would be well that the Home Secretary should refuse to entertain such a question at all unless under some very exceptional conditions, as where new facts are brought to light, which were not known and could not have by reasonable inquiry been known to those conducting the

defence. If the evidence of insanity is so weak that in the exercise of their discretion the legal advisers of the prisoner decline to present it to a Jury, it ought not to prevail with a Home Secretary. The prosecution should have the opportunity of testing it, and the witnesses upon whose testimony it is to rest ought to be under the solemn responsibility of an oath, and not merely be volunteer experts or ingenuous deponents to ingeniously-framed affidavits. Above all, the question should be submitted to the decision of a Judge and Jury, not to that of a Home Secretary. Some may find in the extensive powers already accorded to that official a ground for the establishment of an appeal in all criminal cases, which is plausible enough in theory, though open to many very grave objections in practice. But even a Court of Appeal would not be inclined to accord a very favourable hearing to a totally new case set up for the first time on appeal, and quite repugnant to the line of defence adopted in the Court below. No sufficient reason has been adduced to justify the course which Lamson's family have adopted in thus springing on the adviser of the Queen at the last moment new evidence, or to explain in a satisfactory manner, why, if they knew him to be so mad that he was not responsible for his actions they should not have said so, instead of endeavouring to prove that he had not committed a crime which they could not blame him for committing, as he was not responsible. The only attempted answer is one given by an American sympathiser, and adopted by the criminal's father, who avows that the family did not set up the defence of insanity because of the consequences to their interesting relative which would follow if it were successfully maintained. In other words, knowing that he was so mad as to be liable at any time to commit murder, they deliberately kept back that knowledge in the hope that by so doing he might be again let loose upon the world, though the consequence might not improbably be the murder of more victims either of the puerperal mania or the senile dementia which had reappeared in a middle-aged man. If such a scheme—we can only characterise it as a nefarious scheme—had succeeded, the guilt of those who were responsible for it would hardly be less than that of the murderer himself. But we acquit them of such criminal disregard for the lives of others, and have no real doubt that the plea of insanity is an afterthought.

The discussion of the several circumstances which render the interference of President Arthur in the Lamson case so gratuitous, we may almost say so impertinent, has led us away from the interference itself and Sir William Harcourt's readiness to acquiesce in it. For both of these there is, however, an excuse to be made which it would not be decorous for either party to avow. There is another American interference with our domestic policy, for which more can be said on the ground of strict international law, though not of international courtesy. The detention of American citizens in prison without trial is *primâ facie* good ground of complaint against this country, and there is an evident desire on the part of President Arthur's opponents to make political capital out of the fact that of the suspects now under arrest in Ireland some are entitled to claim the protection of the Stars and Stripes. General Grant, who ought to know better, has contributed to swell the outcry against the "weak-"ness" of the President and the "syco-"phancy" of Mr. Lowell, in not pressing upon the English Government the claim for their release. It may be that the Lamson request is in the nature of a red-herring drawn across the track to throw these politicians off the scent, and President Arthur's appreciation of the difficulties of the English Government in Ireland entitles him to a courteous acquiescence in his request, however unprecedented, for the suspension for a time of the act of justice on Lamson, which, after all, can only be suspended, not altogether abandoned. There is yet another hope for the maintenance of our friendly relations with America. By this time "Jumbo" must have nearly arrived, and such a visitor is likely to throw into the shade, not only the claims of an interesting murderer like Lamson, but those of suffering patriots like Mr. Hart, whose patriotism is Irish, though their nationality is, for the sake of convenience, American.

Reviews.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF SCOTLAND.*

Scotland is honourably distinguished as the land of book clubs; and English, but especially Scottish, history, ecclesiastical as well as secular, owes weighty obligation to the members of the Bannatyne, the Maitland, the Abbotsford, the Spalding, and other similar societies. We are not forgetful of the Roxburghe; but this club can scarcely be called Scottish, except in name. The Grampian Club is an humble imitation of these book societies, and has already put forth a number of documents inedited by these larger and older clubs. Some of these documents are of value. Much, however, it is obvious of any value which the hitherto manuscript treasures of the Advocates' Library or the Record-offices may possess when printed must depend upon the way in which they are edited. Under the care of such editors as the late Mr. Joseph Robertson, of Mr. Cosmo Innes, of Mr. Joseph Stevenson, of Bishop Forbes, of Mr. Stuart, and of Mr. Turnbull, the documents contained in the charter-chests of the Scottish monasteries and of the old Scottish feudal families throw great light upon general history, and especially upon the state of society and of the Church in the dark ages—we use the term advisedly—of Scottish history, the period from Bannockburn to the accession of James VI. to the English Throne. With all the rivalry and the activity inspired, in part at least, by this rivalry there is somewhat still to be gleaned of inedited documents useful to the historical student in the charter-chests of the nobility and the shelves of the libraries of Scotland. But, then, they demand careful and conscientious editing, and the Grampian Club is not fortunate in this respect. Too much has devolved upon Mr. Charles Rogers, and though we will not re-echo the assertion that he is the Grampian Club itself, there is too much in the volumes which we have seen to account at least for the charge. Thus, in the volume which has just reached us, we have some two hundred and fifty pages of what the writer calls a history, and about a hundred pages of documents anent—to borrow a convenient Scotticism—the chapel at Stirling, the predecessor of that attached to the palace of Holyrood. Our faith, however, is at once shaken in the competence of the editor, when we encounter inaccuracies and blunders which show how little conversant he is with the history of his own country during the period he professes to illustrate. Some few of these may be due to a want of care in reading the proof sheets—as, for example, where Sir Henry Wotton is introduced to us as Sir Henry Walton, a confusion between the names of the honest old biographer of Fleet-street and that of the Ambassador (p. cxxxii.). Others we pass over as the outcome of the narrow and bitter spirit of Scottish Covenanting—as where we are told that Charles I. was "virtually" a Roman Catholic (p. clxxix.), and that Laud "formulated" a scheme for the restoration of the Roman Catholic faith (p. ccxlvi.), which he certainly did not do, and a score of such unhistoric assertions. But when we read: "On the 30th "of January, 1649, Charles I. expiated with his "blood his tergiversation and tyranny. His "gallant lieutenant, the Marquis of Montrose, "was executed at Edinburgh on the 29th of May." Had we not known from other sources that the May in which Montrose was executed was that of 1650, we should have understood Mr. Rogers to mean, what he in fact says, that Montrose followed his master to the scaffold four months only after the tragedy at Whitehall. A few pages after this the reader is told that "the con-"duct of Archbishop Laud at the Court of "Charles II. was at the Court of James enacted "by the brothers James and John Drummond, "Earls of Perth and Melfort, . . . the one "inventing the thumbscrew, . . . the younger "brother indulging in lofty rhodomontade that "served momentarily to deceive" (p. ccxxi.—ccxxiii.). The taste of this passage is equal to its accuracy. Nowhere else have we read that Laud invented a thumbscrew, and, whatever other faults he may have been guilty of, that of "rhodomontade" was not one. But, beyond this, which may be only a peculiar kind of Covenanting rhetoric, surely Mr. Charles Rogers ought to have known that Laud was never at the Court of Charles II. We should have been disposed to have attributed this and similar blunders to that much-enduring tribe, the printers, had not this volume abounded in mistakes which cannot be attributed to them, but must, in fairness, be assigned to the editor, whose multifarious occupations seem to have prevented his examining the authorities on which his hasty statements are supposed to be based.

* *History of the Chapel Royal of Scotland: with the Register of the Chapel Royal of Scotland.*—Edinburgh: Printed for the Grampian Club.

NEW NOVELS.

*Deepglen** appears to be its author's first essay in fiction, and it has, therefore, claims on our indulgence which we shall readily admit. The main fault which we perceive in it—a want of dramatic power, a tendency to shroud the mystery till we lose even the wish to unveil it—is eminently a fault of inexperience, and the inconsistencies which we cannot fail to recognise in many of the characters are no doubt largely due to an imperfect knowledge of human nature, consequent on youth. We can less easily excuse the faulty English of the writer, though, unhappily, grammar which would disgrace a National schoolboy is only too frequent in authors whose names have appeared on the title-page of half-a-dozen novels. The frequency of the failing is, however, not to be regarded as a mitigation of it, and there can be no excuse for such a phrase as "you are an excruciating fair creature" put into the mouth of a cultivated gentleman, or, in the author's own person "an incredulous number of "of things came out of her pocket," meaning, it is to be presumed, incredible. Besides such errors as these, it is a trifle that the author should be ignorant of London; but we could wish he had consulted a friend before mapping out such an extraordinary day's sightseeing as he inflicts on his heroine. That young lady having a day to spend with her (supposed) brothers in London "glanced through the British Museum, the Crystal "Palace, the Tower, and the National Gallery, "besides seeing St. Paul's, the Houses of Parlia-"ment, and other buildings of note!" In addition to this, she had her photograph taken, so that "she was fatigued on return-"ing at night," appears a mild statement of her probable condition. It is not our intention to unravel the involved plot which is offered to the sagacity of readers to disentangle: we are far from sure that we could do so if we would. Mary, the heroine, is not a probable character, but her circumstances are so unusual that allowance must be made for the author's finding himself obliged to succumb to a difficulty he has himself created. We venture to think that the step which divides the sublime from the ridiculous has been taken in the scene where she announces her widowhood. Her husband has not filled his position satisfactorily, and there is no pretence at great sorrow. "We are all "imperfect," moralises the man who has been waiting for his death to win his widow's hand. "Yes, we are all imperfect," says Mary impressively, "and I desire he may have a respect-"able funeral when we reach land," he having died at sea. It would be idle to profess that we have discovered any unusual promise in the work before us: the utmost we can say is that, considering the low and still deteriorating standard of modern novels—"ephemeral emptinesses," as Mrs. Forrester might call them—*Deepglen* is not below the average, and its author may very likely in the future rise above it, if he is willing to try and correct faults which may be pardoned in a first attempt, but will assuredly be more severely regarded in a second.

It is in vain that the patient much-maligned race of critics lift up their voices persistently, in the hope of inducing persons ignorant of the very rudiments of English grammar to refrain from exposing their ignorance to the world. Still undismayed, authors who are unacquainted with the fact that, in English, prepositions govern the accusative case, rush into print, and not content with using dozens of words of whose meaning they have not the faintest conception recklessly coin others to express their overflowing emotions. Such a writer is "Monica," as to whom the most hopeful circumstance we have yet descried is the modest wish to conceal her name until there shall be some reasonable hope of finding it connected with praise. That time is, we fear, a very distant one. What is to be said of a writer who describes an ancestor, who was "not wanting in "courage and ability," as having "added a moiety "of lustre, I trow, to Anne's brilliant reign?" Does "Monica" know that a moiety is a half, or does she believe it to represent a portion, or what does she mean? On the next page we have, "With a last look at Honoria Jasper—she of the "scarlet flower—we quitted the gallery." When we had quitted she of the flower, we found a repast which wanted "only our presence to render "it the most perfect of its kind." Not to linger over this beatified meal, which seems to have included jellies reposing in the mossy depths of silver baskets, we will briefly sketch the story itself. The heroine of *Owlet Ash** is Dolores Streatham, the daughter of an organist, and this young lady tells the story. Her chief friend is one Emily Wybrant, who, in the first volume, comes to visit her. She accompanies Emily to her bedroom and observes the "pleased surprise with "which her eye rested on the snowy bed and "dainty dressing table," as if they were the last things she expected to find there; but that is nothing to the "pleased surprise" of Dolores and the reader when Emily's drawings are exhibited. A picture of still life "in neutral tones," which, in spite of its neutral tones, has "the vivid glow "and the indescribable halo of brilliant colouring," in which Emily excelled, is certainly a surprising work of art, and the emotion it awoke in Dolores was worthy of the occasion. "Unutterable soli-"tude and a deep and intensified silence were the "first fruits of an admiration which repelled even "whilst it attracted." Dolores and Emily soon afterwards go to church, and register a solemn vow that she who dies first shall appear in ghostly form to the other, after the lapse of a year and a day. Emily then departs to cultivate her gift for vivid glow and brilliant colouring in Italy. Dolores, meanwhile, is left an orphan, and goes out as a governess to a school. Shortly afterwards she marries an artist, who has inflicted, perhaps, more tedium on the reader than anyone else in the first volume. After a brief season, this personage, Harold Burton, shows himself in his true colours, and his wife, after the death of their child, is extremely miserable. Emily Wybrant fulfils her vow by appearing on the night of the child's death with a "tender, mystic outline," and waving a mournful farewell with an expression of "soul-revolting anguish," disappears. Now follows the discovery that Emily has been one of Harold Burton's victims, and on this Dolores meditates, in a manner which is very beautiful, doubtless, but not so comprehensible as we could wish. "All came back "to me," she says—"the grave where I had laid "her, and like a dream growing out of a dream, "bringing with it a season of roses and sweet for-"get-me-nots, and dainty voluptuous lilies blended "with rue, and marjoram, and faint Puritan "pansies." The practical outcome of these meditations is, that Dolores resolves to leave her husband, and then we have a chapter of very fine writing indeed, entitled "A Strong Man Riven "in his Pain," which describes the anguish of the remorseful Harold. Dolores soon afterwards falls in love with a curate with forget-me-not eyes, and, unmindful of her position, accepts his suit, or as she more elegantly puts it, "walks with an "Unseen Presence in an enchanted garden, with "the rhyme and rhythm of a great passionate "love-making melody in my heart, and investing "the world with Runic measures of the old old "story that was first rehearsed in Paradise." Her husband follows her, and not without reason objects to her proceedings; but is so impressed by her lofty indignation that he commits suicide, and his body is found by his wife during a walk with her new lover. This is the narrative, which, with more copious rhapsodies than we ever remember to have met with, fills the three volumes. If every "Ah, me" and "Look you" could be printed together, they would probably occupy the space of one chapter, and the word "certain" would alone fill another. It is probable that there is a demand for this kind of stuff, or there would not be so unfailing a supply; but authors who write for such a class of readers must not expect toleration from educated or even from sensible people. Probably they are content to stand or fall to their own masters, and in their hands we leave them.

*Phyllida** has all the advantage which a very striking and dramatic opening can give it. It is a great step towards reading a novel, if the first chapter induces you to begin the second with some eagerness, and readers are more indulgent towards subsequent dulness if they have been put into a good temper by a brisk and promising beginning. The beginning of *Phyllida* is all that could be desired. It takes place in Chicago, where a beautiful young burlesque actress has just been discharged for intoxication. An Englishman, Nelson Cole by name, a kind-hearted man with a cynical exterior, inquires into the case, and finds that the intoxication is a first offence, consequent on a champagne dinner given to an ignorant girl, already intensely excited by the news of her escape from a brutal husband. He gives the girl, Stephanie Harcourt, money to get away and make a fresh beginning somewhere else, and returns home, thinking scornfully of a letter that day received from a young English clergyman, who rhapsodises on the sanctity of marriage and of the illustrations of such fanciful theories which he daily sees around him. Meanwhile the reader follows Stephanie to England, and finds that her name is Phyllida Moss, and that she is the child of respectable people on the mother's side, who, however, are entirely ignorant of her bringing up, and of the fact that her mother had abandoned her husband before Phyllida's birth. She is received by a prim aunt, and she shortly captivates the clergyman, who, of course, is Nelson Cole's correspondent. After a feeble resistance she marries him, without confessing any of her antecedents, though her first husband is still alive, and she is only freed from him by an irregular divorce. All goes on well until Nelson Cole's arrival in England, when he at once recognises the disgraced actress in his friend's wife. Phyllida flies from the storm only to be captured and remarried by her infatuated husband, his predecessor having opportunely died. Considering how large a number of arrows Miss Marryat discharges in these volumes at what she considers cant, it is strange that her chief failing should be of a precisely similar kind. There is a cant of the Sadducees as well as of the Pharisees—a cant of free-thinking quite as offensive as the cant of orthodoxy—and Miss Marryat is an obstinate offender in this respect. An author's personality is as little the object of a reader's legitimate curiosity as that of any private person, but it is difficult to avoid wondering whether Miss Marryat has personal reasons for the extraordinary spite—we can give it no other word—with which she regards some existing institutions. At all events, she would do better to leave the subject of religion alone altogether, though she records one instance of a faith, which is so touching in its simplicity that it deserves to be recorded. "It is the exception "to a rule," she says, "when a Roman Catholic "is not devout." This, from a person who has presumably heard of the French nation, is, as we have said, touching. The way in which the hero discusses his dead wife with strangers is only another example of the difficulty lady writers experience in understanding the code of gentlemanhood as understood among men; and, indeed, the hero is one of the most unpleasant young men we ever remember to have seen filling that exalted position in a novel. Phyllida, on the other hand, is lifelike, and, to a certain extent, original; but the whole of the third volume is a sad disappointment after the fresh and vigorous opening. Though it possesses passages of merit, *Phyllida* is, as a whole, inferior to *My Sister the Actress*, in spite of far better materials for the making of a good novel.

* *Deepglen.* By Hugh Morven. In Three Vols.—London: Chapman and Hall, 1882.

* *Owlet Ash.* By Monica. In Three Vols.—London: Marcus Ward and Co., 1882.

* *Phyllida.* By Miss Florence Marryat. In Three Vols.—London: F. V. White and Co., 1882.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

Of late years, with the increase of liturgical study, a theory has been maintained of the early use of a Liturgy in the Christian Church—earlier, indeed, than many of the writings of the New Testament—and that St. Paul especially made citations from such Liturgy in several of his Epistles. In a goodly volume on the *The Apostolic Liturgy and the Epistles to the Hebrews* (Rivington) Mr. J. G. Field has worked in this mine, and has used the proceeds to illustrate the Epistle and to trace much of the argument and expression there made use of to this source. With this idea prominent in his mind, he has gone to the Epistle to

the Hebrews, and he finds there evidence of its reference to Eucharistic worship and its indebtedness to the Primitive Liturgy made use of by the Church. Much of what he has collected is of deep interest. It would have been of greater interest had the author not sometimes overstrained the argument which he has employed, and discovered analogies which will not be apparent to many of his readers. This is but natural. A man in this, as in higher things, finds what he goes to seek. We wish, however, instead of the enthusiastic citation of portions of the old Jewish Temple ritual as a proof of the descent of the Christian ritual and Liturgy from it, that he had drawn out and placed before us a clearer account, so far as can be gathered from the remains, of what the Temple service was, and so have enabled us to test the claim of the Liturgy of St. James to be the offspring of the Jewish Book of Common Prayer—if we may be allowed such an expression. This, indeed, requires a combination of learning in different directions possessed by few; but the inquiry would amply repay the student. In earlier days, when great Hebraists existed in this country, liturgical studies had proved attractive to few; and now liturgical studies are more popular, unfortunately Hebraical knowledge is not so profound as it was in the days of Lightfoot and Ainsworth. If, however, Mr. Field would turn his attention in this direction, he might place the Church under obligations to him, independent of what it owes to him for the preparation of the interesting volume before us.

Among the volumes of *Bampton Lectures*, that of the late John Miller was an able contribution to the evidence of the truth of the Christian Scriptures arising out of their adaptation to the real state of human nature. The temptation of that age was rather moral than intellectual; the temptation of the present age is chiefly intellectual; and Mr. Wadsworth, in this valuable volume, which he has named *The One Religion: Truth, Holiness, and Peace desired by the Nation and revealed by Jesus Christ* (Parker), has supplied a complement to the argument of Mr. Miller, by showing the adequacy of the Christian Revelation to answer and to satisfy the craving of man's intellectual nature under all circumstances and with reference to the inquiries of man to every age and clime. This he does with a fulness and an outspokenness which accord with his name, and remind us throughout of one to whom the Church in our age owes deep gratitude for the courage with which he has maintained the cause of truth and the consistency with which he has followed its guidance. In the course of the argument of his Lectures Mr. Wadsworth passes in review the leading principles of the creeds which claim to be supported by a written revelation, and indicates their value and defects. The reading in this part of his volume is as conspicuous as the thought exerted in the investigation of the three rival creeds of Mohammedanism, Buddhism, and Brahminism, and of their relation to old forms of unbelief and heresy, as well as to their bearings upon modern schools of unbelief. It is a volume singularly suited to present difficulties, and shows a deep acquaintance with lines of thought, especially among Oriental sects, which will doubtless bear fruit in other contributions in defence of the claim of Divine Revelation to the acceptance of mankind. But, whatever the author may be able to do in the future, he has in this volume of *Bampton Lectures* for 1881, made a valuable contribution to apologetic literature, and has furnished the theological student with answers to many of the objections urged by the opponents of Christianity in the present day to its claims upon our reverence. It is, indeed, a timely volume, full of the stores of much reading and of calm judgment, and will rank among the best of those theological lectures which we owe to the foundation of Canon Bampton.

There is a considerable likeness between *Plain Speaking*, by the author of *John Halifax* (Hurst and Blackett), and *Weekday Living*, by Samuel Pearson, M.A. (Kegan Paul and Co.). Indeed, the preface of the latter work describes its contents as "plain talk," thus almost identifying it with the rival volume which deals, as it also does, not merely with the principles but with the practice of an earnest life. In each case we cannot fail to recognise the good intention of the writer; and it is this obvious good intention which makes the two volumes so difficult to criticise fairly. We find it hard to speak otherwise than sympathetically of books with a purpose so excellent in itself: but, if we have to pass judgment on their merits, we cannot confine ourselves to an expression of sympathy with their purpose. We are not willing to adopt the epithet with which a sterner critic is likely to characterise both the one and the other of the volumes before us, yet the justice of that epithet can hardly be denied; and we can little doubt that less tender-hearted critics would not hesitate—as we hesitate—to apply the term twaddling to them. But, though we stop short of this condemnation, we cannot allow that either *Plain Speaking* or *Weekday Living* rises to any high level of literary excellence. The name of the author of *John Halifax*, when it appears on the title-page of a book, is in itself no small recommendation; but her latest volume hardly bears out the promise of its title-page, and reminds us more of the later writings of the author of *John Halifax* than of *John Halifax* itself. We are not told whether or no the various papers here collected have already lived their little life in the pages of some periodical, but some of them we seem to recognise; and the sketch of Mr. Campbell's life, entitled "Light in Darkness," which is certainly the best thing in the book, has, to our knowledge, appeared quite recently in *Good Words*. The other papers have very much of the flavour of magazine-padding about them, and, though every one must own that they are, in the language of the preliminary address, "free from the smallest "suspicion of envy, malice, and all uncharitable-"ness," we cannot discover any special merit in them which justifies their reproduction in a more permanent form. The papers on "Capri" and "St. "Cloud," though not uninteresting in themselves, are certainly out of place if we are to regard the volume as an ethical treatise; but if we look on it simply as a reproduction of the author's *opuscula*, they are not without a certain amount of merit, though they will not add much to the reputation of the author of *John Halifax*.—Mr. Pearson's volume, as we believe, contains more original matter; but, while it has less of the magazine flavour about it, it has certainly more of the sermonising element. As we have before said the unquestionable goodness of the writer's intention, both in the one volume and the other, prevents any very harsh judgment from being passed upon them. But we cannot go so far as to pass any very high commendation upon them. That people ought not to get in debt, that good temper is a good thing, and bad temper a bad thing, that young people ought to be acquainted with the history of their own country, that after all the Bible is the best book, that "it is always an "advantage to be able to express thoughts in "clear idiomatic English before an audience," that "good manners are made up of a number of "attentions to small things," that "youthful "smoking is a bad habit," are propositions which hardly require to be enforced with such exuberant verbosity as is shown by Mr. Pearson. There is little if anything, either in his book or in the *Plain Speaking* of the author of *John Halifax* which calls for hostile criticism, but at the same time there is little, if anything, which is either new in itself or so forcibly expressed as to make up for its want of novelty. Mr. Pearson tells us in his preface that "tediousness is an unpardonable sin "in modern society," but from this sin neither he nor his fellow-labourer in the same field are entirely free. The enunciation of platitudes, however sound and wholesome those platitudes may be, is not really the best means for training young men and women in the practical details of every-day life.

Miss Yonge, in her little volume entitled *Talks about the Laws We Live Under* (Walter Smith, 1882), well carries out an admirable idea which has before now been shadowed out by this most popular writer. Under the guise of conversations between a schoolmaster and his pupils assembled at a night-school, she has given a great deal of information about our social and political institutions, which is likely to correct many popular fallacies, and bring home to many, who have hitherto thought little about such questions, their duties, and also their privileges as members of a great commonwealth. The police and the poor laws, rates and taxes, Church property, and the three estates of the realm, are among the subjects discussed; and while the author has endeavoured, and successfully endeavoured, to avoid all political bias, and has carefully abstained from the inculcation of party views, she has done good service to that party which defends the established order of things in Church and State by removing many current misapprehensions as to that order. One of the boys is represented as an advanced Radical who performs the part of *advocatus diaboli*, and into his mouth are put the current fallacies which are really so easy to dispel, but from want of any wholesome counteracting authority acquire such undue weight and influence. Of course, the communication of sound views in the shape of conversations, is open to the comment that the opponents of the writer's opinion have but a poor chance, when the representation of the arguments of opponents, and the refutation of them, are in the same hands. But this objection really underlies all similar attempts to make ignorant persons practically acquainted with the working of our institutions, and as the arguments and misstatements put into the mouth of the would-be village Hampden fairly enough represent those with which the teacher must be ordinarily brought into contact, it is well that so good and sufficient a refutation of these ordinary arguments should here be supplied for the use of village schoolmasters. Miss Yonge's own suggestion is, that her little book should be read aloud by some competent person who should allow opportunity for remarks and replies, and such a use of it would, we think, be very effective for the accomplishment of its purpose, which is to impart to the less educated classes of the community a clearer and more correct idea than they would otherwise entertain of the laws we live under.

The two volumes of *Bible Picture Books*—one dealing with the Old Testament and the other with the New—which have been published under the direction of the Tract Committee of the S.P.C.K., are of much value as supplying attractive Sunday literature for the little ones. In them the old familiar stories are retold in plain and simple language, with the addition of some very effective illustrations, contrasting most favourably with the coarse, ill-executed Bible pictures of our youth. Considerable skill is shown in the design of the various illustrations which are printed in bright but not too gaudy colours on a gold ground; and, though not all of equal merit, they cannot fail to please the younger students, while they will strike the elder students as very unconventional and as a considerable advance on the days of old.

The Rival Heirs (Rivington) is the third, and we regret to learn the last of the *Chronicles of Æscendune*, in which Mr. Crake has so well succeeded in combining instruction with amusement, and setting forth in the form of fiction a graphic sketch of the history of our Church and Nation in days now long past. Readers of the earlier *Chronicles*, of which the first illustrated the story of Edwy and Elgiva, while the second vividly portrayed the later Danish invasions, will remember that they had their origin in the desire of the author, as the chaplain of a large school, to provide something for the boys of that school, to whom the stories were first narrated *viva voce*, which might "make the leisure hours of Sunday bright and "happy in the absence of the sports and pastimes "of week-days." His success with his first hearers was great; and we cannot doubt, judging by our own experience, that he has been equally successful with his readers as he was with his hearers. The present volume deals with the eventful period of the Norman Conquest; and the rival heirs, whose story it describes, are representative types of the young Englishman and the young Norman of that day. The reader's sympathies are enlisted on behalf of the former, who goes through a variety of thrilling adventures, which will be eagerly studied by the youthful reader, who, while thus following the hairbreadth escapes and gallant deeds of Wilfred of Æscendune, will almost unconsciously imbibe a great deal of useful knowledge as to the condition of England under the iron grasp of the Norman Conqueror.

Readers of Mr. Thackeray will remember how when Captain Shandon projected the *Pall Mall Gazette*, he was not insensible to the effect which might be produced by a judicious use of the poetical element. The lesson was not lost on others who carried out his programme in real life; and readers of the *Pall Mall* may remember not a few admirable occasional verses. When the fatal change took place in 1880, and that journal went over to the ranks of Radicalism, the happy knack of verse-making passed away with the patriotic element in its administration; but both the one and the other found a new and more congenial home in the *St. James's Gazette*, from which we have often borrowed, as our readers may remember, some brilliant *jeu d'esprit*, conveying through the medium of verse home truths not altogether acceptable to the Member for Midlothian and his colleagues. Conservatism is not likely to perish for the want of a *vates sacer;* and it is well that the Gladstone despotism, like many a despotism before it, should be a despotism tempered by epigrams. It is probable that there are many readers who, regretting the ephemeral existence of the happy snatches of verse with which they have been thus familiarised, will gladly welcome the "batch of political and "other fugitives arrested and brought to book" by Mr. H. D. Traill in his volume of *Recaptured Rhymes* (W. Blackwood and Sons). They are admirable specimens of their class; and the command of rhyme and metre which the author of them displays would justify a more ambitious attempt on his part than any that he has yet made. But, gladly as we should welcome any such attempt, we should regret, if, in order to make it, he should altogether abandon a field of literature which he has so completely made his own as the political and social *jeux d'esprit* which he has gathered into the present volume. Many of them will, doubtless, be fresh in the memory of the attentive student of the periodical literature of the day; but that student, unless he has been in the habit of cutting out his favourite pieces from the *Pall Mall*, the *St. James's*, the *World*, and *Time*, will be glad to find the task of collection accomplished for him. There is not one of the fugitive rhymes, whether political or social, grave or gay, which is not worth recapture; and, where all are so good, it is difficult to make a selection, but perhaps "Baron de Wigg," the verses entitled "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*," prompted by the police stupidity about Lefroy, and "The "Puzzled Historian," of which Sir Bartle Frere is the hero, are among the most successful of Mr. Traill's efforts.

That best known of all devotional books which passes rightly or wrongly—probably wrongly—under the name of Thomas-à-Kempis, enjoys a popularity unrivalled among similar works. It would be more than idle at the present day to enlarge on the devout tone and the deep religious feeling which have made the *De Imitatione Christi* so invaluable a companion to many earnest Christians who have but little sympathy with the peculiar dogmatic views which it enunciates. We cannot therefore wonder that the words of piety and wisdom which it contains should have been deemed specially suitable to furnish the materials for *A Daily Textbook* such as that now before us, compiled by Mr. Winks, and published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. It contains a brief quotation for every day of the year, extracted from that rich quarry of holy and consolatory thought, ranging from the deep abasement of true repentance to the joyful rapture of impassioned devotion. The compiler has exercised considerable care in his selection of the passages here brought together, and has shown a commendable desire to avoid anything which may afford legitimate ground for controversy. By so doing he has succeeded in producing a little volume—beautifully printed and most attractive in appearance—which will furnish a valuable aid to devout and serious thought to all those who, whether acquainted with the original work or not, are capable of appreciating the expression given in it to the thoughts and emotions of all followers of our Lord, to whatever section of His Church they may belong.

We have lately received several volumes on the history of the Christian Church in Apostolic and sub-Apostolic times, notably one from the veteran Bishop of Lincoln. The volume just received, *The Beginning of the Christian Church* (Rivington), by Mr. Simcox, late Fellow of Queen's College, is, notwithstanding those which have preceded it, a welcome addition to our stores of ecclesiastical histories of the earliest period of the Christian Church. Thoroughly orthodox, possessing ample learning, not afraid of speculation, independent in his judgments, this volume of Mr. Simcox will be read with interest, and cannot fail to instruct even ordinarily well-informed theological students. The chapter in which St. Stephen's speech is examined is full of valuable suggestions and facts, and the accompanying note on the speeches recorded by St. Luke in the Acts of the Apostles sums up satisfactorily the questions raised as to the degree of genuineness which these speeches may claim to possess. Another interesting fragment is that in which Mr. Simcox compares the prayer of St. Clement with parts, both of the Jewish Liturgy and with that which bears the name of St. Mark. But we will not indicate passages when the whole volume possesses a value and importance of its own. As a contribution to the history of the dawn of Christianity and of its relation to Judaism, the thoughtful volume of Mr. Simcox possesses an interest which cannot fail to arrest the attention of his readers. It is refreshing at this time to receive such a volume.

Miss Yonge has, under the title of *Sowing and Sewing* (Walter Smith), given us a pleasantly-written story, which, like all that she writes, conveys, without obtrusive sermonising, a valuable lesson to the reader. None will think her adaptations of the parable of the Sower to the effect of the Lenten discourse preached by Mr. Somers upon the young sempstresses of Langley to be an irreverent mode of applying the teaching of the Gospel. This is a capital book to serve as a small prize for schoolgirls, or to put into the hands of pupil-teachers.

The old joke of Sydney Smith, that nothing would be done to prevent the locking of railway carriages until a Bishop was burnt, contained, like all the witty Canon's absurdities, a considerable substratum of truth. It is not until some great evil is brought home to the public mind by the notoriety caused by its having fallen on some victim of exceptional distinction, that attempts are made in good earnest to remedy it. We may, therefore, hope that the narrow escape of the Duchess of Connaught from the evil effects of the sanitary, or rather non-sanitary, arrangements at Bagshot Park will draw more attention to an important question than the holocaust of any number of less prominent victims, such as, we fear, takes place almost unheeded, month after month, in every year. There is, indeed, no lack of literature bearing upon the subject, and the text *Sanitas sanitatum omnia sanitas* gives occasion at the present day to any number of sermons. The discourse on that text, to which we now wish to call attention, is preached by Mr. Gregson Banner, who has given so much attention to domestic sanitation and ventilation that he has a special claim to be heard upon these important subjects. His little brochure, *Wholesome Houses* (Edward Stanford and Co.), has reached a second edition, and the author has taken advantage of this, not only to rearrange the contents, but to add considerably to them. His system of a tripartite arrangement of trap, inlet pipe, and cowl seems the most effectual for the exclusion of sewer gas from houses which has yet been put forward, and if that exclusion could be effected, we should not have to deplore the loss of so many valuable lives in the future as have in the past fallen victims to blood-poisoning.

Dr. Morrell's *Guide to Employment in the Civil Service* has already been noticed favourably by us, and has established its claim to popular favour by the practical proof which experience has given of the utility of the information which it contains. We need, therefore, only mention to parents and guardians, as well as to candidates themselves, that a new edition of it has just been published by Messrs. Cassell, thoroughly revised and rewritten, and that the useful little volume in its present enlarged shape contains more than twice as much matter as the original issue.

The Pupil's Geography (Relfe Brothers) is a reproduction in an extended form, and in the shape of a book, of the series of cards published by the same firm, as a companion to the map for the use of teachers. The idea was to bring together the leading points of lessons to be given fully, and as the cards have reached a second edition, it is thought that many teachers who found the arrangement of them inconvenient, would be glad to welcome this extension of the principle in a form which they may think more practically useful, though the author himself—and we are inclined to agree with him—recommends the use of the cards in preference to the book, in the case of beginners.

The series of *Roundhand Writers* just published by Messrs. Collins is a valuable addition to their already numerous educational works. To a carefully graduated set of copybooks, ten in number, commencing with simple strokes and leading the learner by degrees to smallhand and arithmetical forms, are added two blank books, one ruled for dictation and the other for arithmetic, and the whole are put up in a neat cover which keeps them tidy and enables the teacher, if so disposed, to preserve a record of his pupils' progress from pothooks and hangers to a good business hand.

Mr. F. Vieweg has undertaken the publication of a "Mediæval French Library," under the superintendence of MM. Gaston Paris and Paul Meyer.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure in showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

A performance of Dr. Bridge's oratorio, *Mount Moriah*, was given in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday evening, at 7.30 p.m., an important feature of which was the first introduction in London of Mr. Baillie Hamilton's new musical instrument. On the previous Saturday evening's rehearsal a choir of one hundred and fifty voices were led throughout by the "Vocaline"—for such is the name by which in future the instrument is to be known—and the result was entirely satisfactory, the tones being full, rich, and penetrating. At the conclusion of the rehearsal, the wife of the Dean and her friends tried its effect with regard to sound from extreme portions of the edifice, and it was complete from even the remotest part of the nave. Their favourable verdict was confirmed on Wednesday, when a very large congregation gathered in the choir and transepts and listened with the deepest attention to a very beautiful rendering of Dr. Bridges' oratorio, when a large band supplemented the "Vocaline." They did not, however, so fully show their appreciation by the liberality of their contributions to the collection, which, after defraying expenses, was to be devoted to Westminster Hospital. A sum of a little over £43 was all that was collected. The choruses were very effective, and the boys' voices rang through the vast building, but the tenor was hardly up to the proper mark. But as it is not in the music allotted to him that the merit of Dr. Bridges' work is mainly shown, this was not quite so material as it would have been in the rendering of some other compositions. The cost of the new invention, which will be for some days retained in the Abbey, is somewhat less than a hundred guineas, and it may be described as a wind-pianoforte, the volume of sound being infinitely superior to an ordinary harmonium, but, of course, less than the accustomed organ with which we are familiar in cathedral and other establishments. There can be no doubt of its utility with regard to the dimensions of smaller edifices, many applications in respect of it having already reached Mr. Hamilton, especially since its public trial at Harrow School before H.R.H. Princess Louise and Mr. Gladstone on speech-day. The result of Wednesday's trial was no less satisfactory, and Mr. Baillie Hamilton, who computes that, with present arrangements, he will be able to turn out forty instruments a month, is likely to find a brisk demand for them.

The Assistant-Professorship of Agriculture and Rural Economy at the Royal Agricultural College has been conferred upon Mr. Robert Wallace, of Twiglees Farm, Lockerlie, son of Mr. Wallace, of Holm Hill, near Thornhill, N.B. Mr. Wallace obtained the Agriculture Medal of Edinburgh University, and holds the Diplomas of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland and the Royal Agricultural Society of England. In 1879 he was selected by his county to proceed to Canada to report on the agricultural condition and prospects of the country, and is an experienced practical agriculturist.

The captain of the French steamer *St. Germain* reports having encountered an ice-floe of vast extent during his last outward voyage across the Atlantic. During the night of February 24-5 the vessel passed through two fields of ice, estimated at from two to three miles in width. On the following morning there lay in the course of the ship an immense agglomeration of masses of ice, many of which resembled the *débris* of shattered icebergs, to which no limit could be seen west, north, or south. At the time the vessel was in latitude 46deg. N., and longitude 50deg. W. The ice was drifting from north to south, and for two hours the ship steamed in a southerly direction along the eastern side of the ice-floe, at full speed, without seeing any opening, its eastern face being perfectly level. Soon after eight o'clock a channel about two miles wide, and running north and south, opened out, which the captain entered, hoping to reach the open sea to the south, but after about an hour's steaming the channel narrowed into a deep strait, when he decided to continue his course slowly and push through the ice, and, after three hours' perilous navigation, saw open water to the west, which he at last entered in latitude 44deg. N., and longitude 51deg., W., or about 120 miles to the south, and 60 miles to the west of the point at which the ice-floe was first encountered. Even then the southern limit of the floe could not be seen, although the atmosphere was exceptionally clear at the time.

Nine cases representing a portion of the results of the researches just on the eve of being resumed by M. Hormuzd Rassam, who left this country for Alexandretta and Babylon on the 6th ult., have just arrived in London. The tablets which they contain are for the most part small, and, either whole or in a fragmentary condition, are estimated to reach about 5,000 in number. The texts on the tablets are large beyond precedent as compared with the size of the vehicle on which they are inscribed. The new importation, so far as it has been investigated, consists chiefly of trade documents, and largely of contracts for the supply of corn and other agricultural products. They are dated in the reigns of Samas-sum-ukin and Kandalanu, the Chinladanus of the Greeks, who were contemporary with the latter half of the reign of Assurbanipal, or Sardanapalus, of Assyria, about B.C. 646. The tablets are from Aboo-habba, the site of the ancient Sippara, the Sepharvaim of the Old Testament, which is mentioned by Sennacherib in his letter to Hezekiah as a city whose king had been unable to resist the Assyrians. Sippara, or Pantibiblon, as the Greeks called it, is mentioned by Berosus as having furnished five out of the ten Chaldean kings of the time before the Flood and as the place where Xisuthrus, or Noah, buried the records of the antediluvian world at the time of the Deluge, and from which his posterity afterwards recovered them. The Hebrew term Sepharvaim, which is the verbal equivalent of the "two Sipparas," is applied to twin cities, one of which was situated on each side of the river. The Sippara from which the tablets just arrived in London have been procured is the Sippara of Samas, Taipar sha Shamas, or Sippara of the Sun-god, as being the place where pre-eminently the sun was a chief object of worship. The other Sippara, or Sippara of Anuit, which is supposed in ancient times to name the Sepharvaim of Scripture history, is up to the present moment unknown to modern investigation.

Mr. Swinburne is writing the article "Mary Stuart" for the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

The following letter which appears in the *World* is likely, we should think, to meet with a cordial response :—

My dear Atlas,—There must be hundreds and hundreds of old opera *habitués* of thirty years ago who will read with very great sympathy the following paragraph in the prospectus of the forthcoming Royal Italian Opera season at Covent Garden :

It is announced with great regret that, in consequence of failing health, Signor Tagliafico, who has been connected with the Royal Italian Opera as artist, and latterly as stage-manager, for over thirty years, is compelled to resign his position.

I will not hurt your feelings, but do you remember when we were young fogies sitting *sub tegmine fagi* of the old Garrick, taking our coffee and cigar before our stall? Do you remember other old fogies, dead and gone, who agreed with us that the Comte de Nevers, as played by Signor Tagliafico, was one of the noblest and most chivalrous figures ever presented on the mimic stage? For the sake of the living and the dead—it is needless to recount their names—shall we not ask this admirable gentleman and artist to accept from those whom he has so often delighted a testimonial of their regard and, indeed, affection? I would suggest a handsome tankard, or salver, on either of which the Comte should be the chief figure, breaking his sword across his knee in the famous scene in *Gli Ugonotti*. Let the subscriptions be equivalent to the price of the stalls of that ancient date—a guinea.

"Atlas" suggests that the next time *Moths* is produced at the Globe Miss Litton should wear a "property" necklace in the scene with the brutal Zouroff. At the *matinée* the Prince tore off a very pretty bit of filigree gold-work from the lady's neck, and was about, very properly, to proceed to the effective business of dashing it on the ground and grinding it to powder beneath his iron heel; but an agonised look from the lady apparently softened his Muscovite ire, for he gently dropped the gold toy on the softest bit of carpet he could select in his excitement, and then vigorously pounded on the floor a good three feet away from it! The effect was very comic indeed.

A circular signed by Garibaldi, calls on all the "Irridenti," especially those of Eastern Europe, to form a grand revolutionary league. The basis of the programme is the dismemberment of the Turkish and Austrian Empires, Italy taking the Julian and Rhetian Alps, Roumania the Banat, Transylvania, and the Bukovina; while a new Federal group would include Bohemia, Moravia, Hungary, Styria, and Montenegro. Germany as the price of its friendliness is to acquire the upper valley of the Salza, the second basin of the Inn, and the Archduchy of Austria; Greece would take the Mediterranean Archipelago, and Roumania generally be residuary legatee of the Sick Man!

In the last Cambridge Local Examinations the junior girls gained the highest percentage of passes, namely, 71·1, though not so high as last year, when 75 per cent. passed. The history and geography and the play of "Coriolanus" were much better prepared by girls than boys. The answering in Latin syntax and composition comes in for most severe condemnation. In fact, all through the reports on the performances in the language papers the apparent inability of candidates to comprehend grammar is commented on. The scientific subjects do not appear to be successfully attempted. From the general tenour of the reports it may be gathered that a mere pass signifies only the barest modicum of knowledge, and that much remains to be done before the instruction given to boys and girls of the middle classes rises to a moderate degree of intelligence and accuracy.

The second volume of the *Catholic Records* was practically completed before the death of the Rev. T. Fras. Knox, D.D., of the London Oratory, and it will shortly be issued by Mr. David Nutt. It contains letters and memorials of Cardinal Allen from the year 1567 to about 1612. These are transcribed from the Public Record Office and other English collections, as well as from the archives of the English colleges at Rome and Valladolid, and from the archives of Brussels and Simancas. Some 220 of the letters are now being printed for the first time, so that the work can hardly fail to be of interest to students of Elizabethan history.

Amongst the contributions of special interest which will appear in the May number of the *Magazine of Art* are an article by the Rev. Mandell Creighton, on "Rimini and Sigismund Malatesta;" "A Study of the Life and Work of Boucher," by Mr. Egmont Hake; note on "Queen Anne Plate," by Mr. Wilfrid Crips; and articles by Mr. Grant Allen and Mr. Andrew Lang, on "The False Classicism of the Last Century," and "The Representative Art of Savages," respectively. The "Living Artist" is the American painter, Mr. J. G. Brown, N.A. The frontispiece is an engraving after the "Alone" of Josef Israels.

The commemorative tablet placed by the municipality of Rome on the house in the Via delle Mercede, where Sir Walter Scott lodged, reads as follows :—

S.P.Q.R.
L'ANNO MDCCCXXXII.
ULTIMA DI SUA VITA,
QUESTA CASA ABITO'
L'ILLUSTRE ROMANZIERE INGLESE
WALTER SCOTT
DI EDIMBURGO
MDCCCXXXII.

The attention of the municipal authorities was drawn in time to the error in describing Scott as an English writer; but they could not be moved from the conviction that a Scotchman is necessarily an Englishman, as a Piedmontese an Italian.

The *Athenæum* states that Mr. J. H. Hessels, the learned editor of the *Lex Salica*, has finished an interesting work on Gutenberg, which will shortly be published by Mr. Quaritch. The volume contains a severe criticism of Dr. Vanderlinde's recent work on the same subject, and gives reasons based on original research for pronouncing about half a dozen of the so-called Gutenburg documents to be forgeries.

The Botticellis (says the *Athenæum*) recently acquired by the French Government from the Villa Lemmi, and placed on the staircase of the Louvre, have attracted great attention in Paris. Crowds assemble before them all day long. Much regret is expressed on this side of the Channel that these fine frescoes were not secured for the National Gallery. If rumour speaks correctly, the National Gallery has been less fortunate than the Louvre in its latest Italian purchase, for while the Lemmi Botticellis were cleverly smuggled away before the Commissioners could lay an embargo on them, the Francia, from a private gallery at Ferrara, for which it is stated we have paid 50,000*l*., has not been allowed to leave Italy.

Canon Cromwell, Principal of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, writes thus to the *Guardian* :—

In last week's *Guardian* you printed a memorandum from Lord Norton in reference to the new Code; and I am much mistaken if a very considerable number of managers and teachers of elementary schools will not concur in the leading principles laid down in that memorandum, however much they may happen to differ from some of its details. On Friday last Lord Norton followed up his memorandum by giving notice in the House of Lords, that he will move on April 28th :—

"That the Education Code for 1883 be referred to a committee to consider whether it may not be made more effectually to carry out its professed intention of simplification of the Code, and remove the serious defects in the mode of distributing grants in aid, and prevent the perpetual changes against which complaints increasingly come from those engaged in the work of national elementary education."

It seems to me that the proper line now to be taken by all those persons who are dissatisfied with the new Code is to do all in their power to support the proposal of Lord Norton, and this they can do in no more immediate and practical way than by speedily sending up petitions to the House of Lords, praying for the appointment of a Committee to consider amendments in the Code. No time should be lost. School Committees should as soon as possible meet and agree upon a simple form of petition. If the House of Lords can be induced to appoint a Committee we may fairly hope that full opportunities will be given to managers and teachers of elementary schools for representing their objections to the Code proposed.

The quarterly statement of the Palestine Exploration Fund contains full particulars of the recent discoveries made by Captain Conder on the east of the Jordan. These are of great Biblical interest. He has found, among the numerous stone circles, dolmens, and menhirs, already known to exist in Moab, four undoubted great centres, round which the monuments are disposed. These are Mushibiyeh, at El Mareighêt, and at Minyeh, south of Hesbân, and in the Ghor, near Refrein. The first of these Captain Conder identifies with Bamoth Baal, the second with Baal Peor, the third with "the top of Baal Peor which looketh towards Jeshimon," and the fourth with the "Sanctuary of Baal Peor," in the Jordan Valley, where the Israelites worshipped while in Shittim. The reasons for these identifications are extremely curious and interesting, and if the arguments be accepted the discovery will prove to be perhaps the most striking result of the value and importance of scientific research. The map of the district, drawn by the survivors, enables Captain Conder to study the country in detail with its conformations for the first time accurately laid down; the collection of names shows him how such memories one would expect still haunt the spot. The monuments which still stand as they stood in the days of Balak illustrate the religion of the people whom the Israelites were to dispossess; and with this knowledge to help him, he has stood upon Pisgah, and seen, like Balaam, only a part of the Israelite encampments; upon Bamoth Baal, and also seen only a part; and upon Baal Peor, and seen how Balaam would have seen them all—"Israel abiding in his tents, according to their tribes." He has also made a discovery at Ammân which possesses another kind of interest. He has found that a building already seen and described by several travellers is of Sassanian character, which seems to connect it with the curious ruin discovered by Canon Tristram at Mashita. He has also discovered many ancient rock-cut tombs, presumably those of the ancient Ammonites, but ruder in character than those commonly found in Western Palestine. The citadel of Ammân he considers to be late Roman work. He has discovered at Arak-el-Emir, the great palace of Hyrcanus, the method of conveying the immense stones, some of them 20ft. long and 10ft. high, from the quarry to their destination. On the western side he has explored the tunnel of Siloam and discovered the place where the workmen met, and he has obtained a cast and made a reading of the now famous Phœnician inscription, which is supposed to belong to the time of Hezekiah. The new number of the society's journal also contains a collection of Arab legends, with an account of a newly-discovered Christian church near Jerusalem, and other papers of interest. The survey of Eastern Palestine was stopped before the end of last year by the Turkish authorities on the ground of an informality in the firman. Through the good offices of Lord Dufferin, however, another firman has been promised, but it is not yet signed. As no objection had been made to granting the firman of Dr. Schliemann to excavate at Hissarlik, it is hoped that a similar favour will not be refused the English society in their work of examining this most interesting country.

DERBY CHURCH CONGRESS.

October 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 1882.

PROVISIONAL LIST OF SUBJECTS.

EVANGELISTIC WORK OF THE CHURCH.

Abroad: Foreign Missions.
- *a*—Organisation of Native Churches.
- *b*—Missionary Centres.
- *c*—Medical Missions.

At Home:
- *a*—Neglect of Public Worship—Causes and Remedies.
- *b*—The Church and Revival Movements apart from her.

The Jews:
- *a*—Their present religious condition.
- *b*—Their prospects.
- *c*—The duty of the Church to them.

The duty of the Church towards
- *a*—Criminals.
- *b*—Paupers and Vagrants.
- *c*—Navvies and Canal Population.

APOLOGETIC WORK OF THE CHURCH.

- *a*—The claims of Rome.
- *b*—The deficiencies of Dissent.
- *c*—Possibilities of Reunion or Inter-Communion.
- *a*—The limits of Authority and Freethought.
- *b*—The harmony of Science and Faith.
- *c*—The dependence of Morality upon Revelation.

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK OF THE CHURCH.

Extension of Church Ministries:
- *a*—Coadjutor Bishops, Suffragan, and Assistant.
- *b*—The Diaconate.
- *c*—Minor Offices.

Church Discipline:
- *a*—Disciplinary Laws as affecting the Clergy: (1) Criminous Clerks. (2) Negligent Clerks.
- *b*—Church Courts.
- *c*—Canonical obedience.

Synodical Action:
- *a*—Diocesan Synods.
- *b*—Church Boards.
- *c*—Central Council of Diocesan Conferences.

Political Relations of the Church.
- *a*—The Church and the Crown.
- *b*—The Church and Parliament.
- *c*—The Church and Democracy.

INNER LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

Devotional:
- *a*—Devotional Study of Holy Scripture.
- *b*—Enrichment of Private Prayer.
- *c*—The Holy Communion in relation to Personal Devotion.
- *d*—Association for Prayer and Progress in Spiritual Life.

Unity of Belief in relation to Diversities of thought.

INNER WORK OF THE CHURCH.

- *a*—The ideal of Worship in the Church of England.
- *b*—Proposals for Liturgical reform.

The Clergy:
- *a*—The voice of the Church in the appointment of Bishops and Parish Priests.
- *b*—Position and prospects of the unbeneficed Clergy.

Morality in
- *a*—Trade.
- *b*—Politics.
- *c*— Private affairs.

The Church in relation to domestic and social life.
- *a*—The Upper Classes.
- *b*—The Dwellings of the Poor.
- *c*—The Recreations of the People.

Marriage Laws:
- *a*—Prohibited Degrees.
- *b*—Preliminary Safeguards.
- *c*—Divorce and Separation.

The Religious life of the young among educated classes, clerks, domestic servants.
- *a*—Pastoral Care.
- *b*—Systematic Teaching.
- *c*—Special Services.
- *d*—Association.

Temperance Work.
- *a*—Counter Attractions.
- *b*—Remedial Treatment of Inebriates.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. E. R. Gardiner, Curate of Watford, to Rectory of Radwell, near Baldock. Patron, Mr. F. Pym.

Rev. R. S. Gregory, Vicar of St. Mark's, Myddelton-square, Clerkenwell, to Vicarage of Edmonton. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.

Rev. W. V. Lloyd, Chaplain to H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, to Rectory of Haselbech, Northamptonshire. Patron, Viscountess Milton.

Rev. C. H. Minchin, Curate-in-Charge of St. Mary de Lode, Gloucester, to Curacy of the Old Church at Walcot, Bath. Patron, Canon Bernard.

Rev. W. H. L. Rasby, to Rectory of Felton, Herefordshire. Patrons, the Messrs. Wood, of Glossop.

Rev. R. Salkeld, Vicar of St. James's, Millbrook, to Vicarage of St. Mark's, Dukinfield. Patron, the Bishop of Chester.

Rev. T. A. Schonberg, to Curacy (Sole Charge) of St, Paul's, Heaton Moor.

OBITUARY.

March 15, the Rev. Richard Pritchard, for 44 years Rector of Whitchurch, near Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, aged 77 years.

March 20, at St. James's Rectory, Toronto, the Very Rev. Henry James Grasett, D.D., Rector of St. James's, and first Dean of Toronto, in the 74th year of his age.

March 28, at the Archdeaconry, Bushmills, county Antrim, the Ven. Thomas Hincks, Archdeacon of Connor, aged 86 years.

March 29, at Nottingham, the Rev. William Alban Osler, M.A., Oxon, aged 41.

March 29, at Sulgrave Vicarage, the Rev. William Harding, 53 years Vicar of the parish, aged 76.

March 31, at Norfolk Villa, Water-lane, Brixton, the Rev. Samuel Eldridge, aged 67.

March 31, at Penarth, Rev. John Lewis Jones, M.A., Rector of Michaelstone-le-Pit, aged 48.

April 1, at Stockwell-road, the Rev. Joseph Wallis, M.A., of Caius College, Cambridge, Vicar of S. Andrew's, Stockwell.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

It is said that at Christ Church, Blackpool, there is to be no celebration of the Holy Communion on Easter Day.

A local paper states that Mr. Gladstone has offered the living of St. Matthew's, Sheffield, to one of the curates attached to All Saints, Clifton (the Rev. R. W. Randall's church).

We are authorised to state that a very old friend of the Church Missionary Society, an earnest upholder of its principles, has offered, as a mark of his thorough approval of the action of the Society regarding the Japan Bishopric, to guarantee the contribution to the Society's funds of £500 per annum for the first five years, on the understanding that the Society's conditions regarding it are fulfilled. Their promised grant is thus provided without drawing on the general contributions to their funds.—*Record*.

The Bishop of Exeter will hold his Visitation at Exeter on the 18th, at Honiton on the 19th, and at Tiverton on the 20th instant.

The *Record* states that the Bishop of the Niger has arrived, accompanied by his grandson, Mr. Hugh Stowell Macaulay, who acts as his secretary. Bishop Crowther's object in visiting England is to confer with the authorities of the Church Missionary Society with reference to important matters affecting his Church and diocese.

The Rev. Dr. Stubbs, Canon of St. Paul's and Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford, was on March 30 elected as a Corresponding Member of the Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences, Berlin.

On Saturday the Bishop of London admitted two ladies to the order of deaconesses, in the chapel of the London Diocesan Deaconess' Institution at Westbourne-park. The newly-admitted deaconesses will be engaged in general parochial work. It is understood that there is a very increasing demand among the clergy for the services of these authorised and trained ladies.

The Mercers' Company's Chapel in Ironmonger-lane, Cheapside, has been full every Sunday evening during Lent. On the first four Sundays the Rev. Arthur Veysey, chaplain to the Company, preached a course of sermons on 1 Cor. vi. 19, 20, dwelling chiefly on these four points—"What we are by nature," "What we are by grace," "What we have been made by holy baptism," and "The consequent duty laid upon us all to glorify God with the whole man." On the last two Sundays the subjects of the meditations were "Behold the Man," and "Behold thy King." On the Thursday evenings in Lent a Bible-class was held, which was well attended and much appreciated.

On Tuesday week, the rector of Christ Church, Bradford (Manchester), was solemnising a marriage, when the brother of the bride interrupted him with the statement that his sister was already married, and that her husband had been seen twice within the last year. The woman acknowledged her previous marriage, but said she had not seen her husband for three years. The rector, of course, refused to complete the ceremony. Subsequently it transpired that the would-be bridegroom had already two "wives" living.

The Bishop of Oxford has written to the Rev. T. Vincent, thanking him for his tract on the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, heartily hoping that it will have a wide circulation. "It is a matter of surprise to me that the persons who advocate a change in the law of marriage do not see that they have never replied to the chief arguments urged against them. They do not seem to understand that their own reasoning requires a much larger change than their Bill provides for. I wish that they could all read your tract, and appreciate its force."

At the invitation of Mrs. Walsham How, a drawing-room meeting of the Girls' Friendly Society was held at Stainforth House, Upper Clapton, on Wednesday week; about a hundred ladies being present, together with some of the East-end clergy. The Duchess of Leeds was in the chair. After a few opening words from the Bishop of Bedford, who spoke of the immense value of the society to girls in East London, the Duchess of Leeds read an excellent paper written by Miss Deedes, upon the general work of the society. Lady Helen Stewart (the Diocesan President) then read a paper upon the great need of such help as is given by the Society to the friendless girls employed in a great variety of ways in London. Lady Grey followed with a very interesting account of the House of Rest provided by the Society; and the Bishop of Bedford read an excellent paper, written by Lady Shrewsbury, who was prevented from attending by a slight accident, upon work among factory girls. An address was then given by the Rev. J. F. Kitto, rector of Stepney, and a vote of thanks were passed to the Duchess of Leeds. It is hoped that the meeting will give a fresh impetus to the admirable work of the Girls' Friendly Society in East London.

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have presented the Rev. R. S. Gregory, vicar of St. Mark's, Myddelton-square, Clerkenwell, to the living of Edmonton, in the room of Canon Burrows, resigned. It is of the value of £700 a year, out of which the vicar has to pay £53 to St. James's, Upper Edmonton, and £100 to St. Paul's, Winchmore-hill. The vicarage of St. Mark's, thus rendered vacant, is in the gift of the Bishop of London, and of the value of £300 a year.

On Wednesday evening a large meeting, chiefly of ladies, was held at the Library of Lambeth Palace, in support of the Association for Befriending Young Servants, which was founded by the late Mrs. Nassau Senior about seven years ago, and which has since had under its care more than a thousand girls from the pauper schools of the metropolis, and nineteen hundred others. The Rev. J. Ll. Davies presided. Mr. R. H. Hutton (seconded by Alderman M'Arthur, M.P.), moved a resolution to the effect that the efforts of the association to bring higher influences to bear on the girls under mistresses who accepted their visitation was calculated to redeem service from the notion of drudgery too often connected with it. This was agreed to unanimously, as was also one proposed and seconded by Mrs. Fawcett and Mr. Holland, M.P., declaring the society to be deserving of support.

Mr. John Blockley has been presented with a handsome testimonial by the clergy and congregation of St. Saviour's, Haverstock-hill, where he has officiated as organist for a period of thirty-three years.

A Churchman of the Northern Province writes to the *Times*:—

I observe from the various reports in the newspapers of the preparations that are being made for the marriage of the Duke of Albany that the Archbishop of Canterbury and four other Bishops of the Southern Province are to officiate at the ceremony in St. George's Chapel. I believe, if my memory serves me rightly, that at the last two or three Royal marriages the ceremony was performed by Bishops of the Southern Province. Now, Sir, surely this cannot be an oversight of Her Majesty, or those having control of the arrangements. That it is a slight to the Bishops, Churchmen, and Dissenters of the Northern Province is manifest, and demands an explanation from some one at Court. Surely one or two of such men as the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Durham, Carlisle, Liverpool, Manchester, and Sodor and Man deserve, and are as much entitled, to have the honour of assisting in performing the ceremony as the Bishops who are announced to do so. Can it be, Sir, that the reason why the Bishops of the Northern Province are so ignored is that they are as a body too Protestant? I trow not.

The singing of Bach's Passion Music as an act of devotion on the Tuesday in every recurring Holy Week is now a firmly established fact at St. Paul's Cathedral, and Churchpeople seem to appreciate it more and more every year. An hour before the service began all the seats were occupied. The Cathedral was filled from end to end, and we should say there were nearly 10,000 persons present. The behaviour of the vast congregation was for the most part very reverent, and almost all stood and knelt at the places in the course of the service where they were requested to do so. As on former occasions so on this, the Passion Music was preceded by the Fifty-first Psalm, beautifully sung to Dr. Stainer's harmonised version of Redhead's chant, and by the latter part of the Commination service, intoned by Minor-Canon Kelly. The choir numbered about two hundred and fifty voices, and there were eighty instruments in the orchestra. Dr. Stainer conducted, while Mr. Martin played the organ, and Mr. Walker the piano accompaniment to the recitatives, Mr. Kenningham finely delivered the trying tenor recitatives that belong to the part of the Narrator; Mr. Kempton sang with feeling and expression the words uttered by the Saviour; Mr. De Lacey sang the parts of Judas and Caiaphas, and Mr. Horscroft that of St. Peter, the treble part being most feelingly taken by Bartlett, of the Cathedral choir-school. Where all was good it may seem invidious to praise any particular part, but we cannot help mentioning the thrilling effect of the sudden *forte* outburst of "Barabbas" by the double chorus representing the Jewish multitude before Pilate, and the beauty of the solo and chorus, "See the Saviour's outstretched arm," the boys in this being especially good; and the concluding chorus, "In tears of grief," was also sung very finely. The service concluded with a collect and the benediction pronounced by the Bishop of London. There were present in their stalls Dean Church, Dr. Liddon, Dr. Hessey, and Canon Gregory. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh and Lady Coleridge were amongst the congregation.

Two two-light windows have this week been added to the west end of the parish church of Radwinter, near Saffron Walden, and illustrate by means of four subjects in each window, "Baptism" and the "Holy Eucharist." In the first window "Baptism" is illustrated by the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea (in the distance is shown the pillar of cloud); Noah and his family entering the Ark; beneath these two types is represented our Lord's last charge to His disciples, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost;" and, lastly, "Infant Baptism in a Christian Church in the Middle Ages." In the tracery above is the dove, the emblem of the Holy Spirit. The subjects in the "Eucharist window" are the two spies returning with the cluster of grapes, and the children of Israel gathering Manna in the Wilderness—thus the two subjects represent by emblem the Body and Blood of Our Lord. Beneath this are two subjects, illustrating "Our Lord's Institution of the Holy Eucharist and its Celebration in the Church of Christ." In the tracery is the chalice, and on scrolls at each side the word "Jesu." Much care was bestowed upon the arrangement of the windows by the vicar, the Rev. J. F. W. Bullock, and they are from the studio of Messrs. Isaac A. Gibbs and Howard, of 64, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, London.

The following paragraph, headed "A Burial Scandal," has appeared in the daily papers:—

The conduct of a rector of one of the parishes in Anglesey is exciting much adverse and painful comment, and has been formally brought under the notice of the authorities. The parish abuts on the sea, and the churchyard is a spot specially set aside for the interment of bodies washed ashore and unidentified. About a month ago the first interment under the Burials Act took place, the woman who was buried being placed in a family grave in which there was just space for her coffin. The rector made no secret of his displeasure at a Nonconformist minister officiating at the funeral. A fortnight ago a sailor's body, greatly decomposed, was found on the shore. The sexton was preparing for its interment in the customary place, when he was ordered by the rector to re-open the family grave in which the woman had been interred and to bury it there. The shell was nearly level with the surface, and a mound of earth had to be heaped over it to conceal it from view. The disturbance of the grave attracted notice, a representation was made to the Bishop, and a memorial to the Home Office praying for a full investigation has been prepared and extensively signed. Last week the grave was again opened and the sailor's body removed, but by whom or whither the rector professes total ignorance.

The transfer of an advowson is proposed to be entirely prohibited by Mr. Edward Leatham's Church Patronage Bill, except to four classes of persons, or by will or by a marriage settlement. The persons to whom the Bill would allow a transfer to be made are—(1) the Lord of the Manor; (2) a person receiving rents exceeding twice the gross income of the living from land situate within the limits of the benefice or within some parish from which that income or a part of it is derived for at least some life estate; (3) some public patron or trustees not having the power of sale; and (4) the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. With regard to the last of these a patron is empowered by the Bill to require them at any time to purchase his advowson. The price to be paid is either to be agreed on or to be fixed by arbitration, but it is not to exceed a half of the market value. And this sum is to be made a charge on the income of the living after it is vacated by the present incumbent. When the advowson has been thus purchased by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, the arrangement is for the patronage to vest, not in them, but in the Crown. The Bill also contains provisions for prohibiting the sale of a limited interest in an advowson, except in certain cases, for making resignation bonds invalid, and for abolishing donatives.

The painted window by Taylor, of Berners-street, which has been erected in the Priory Church, Brecon, by their comrades past and present, in memory of those who fell in the South African campaign, will be unveiled on Thursday, the 13th inst. The Bishop of the diocese will be present at the ceremony which will take place, and which will be attended by representatives of the regiment from Colchester and Brecon, and by many relatives and friends of those who have fallen. The large memorial, brass-mounted on black marble, contains the inscription with the badges and honours of the regiment.

The thirty-fourth report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners states that they have received by direction of the Lord Chancellor, under the provisions of the Augmentation Act of 1863, the sum of £800. Sixty-four districts have been constituted or assigned; in eleven cases the boundaries of districts or new parishes have altered; orders have been made, authorising the occasional offices in five churches or chapels; twelve new buildings have been substituted for old or existing parish churches; ten churches have been formally approved for new parishes; scales of pew-rents have been fixed for nine churches; in two cases a table of fees has been authorised; and 149 conveyances of sites for churches, burial-grounds, parsonage-houses, and glebe have been accepted. The endowment of a non-residentiary preferment (the prebend of Fordington in the Cathedral of Salisbury) has become vested in the Commissioners. In concluding the Commissioners state that, although the agricultural depression referred to in their previous reports has continued to affect seriously a part of their revenues, yet, having regard to the improvement in other portions of those revenues, arising from the lapse of beneficial leases and from other circumstances, they are in a position to grant for the current year, for the augmentation and endowment of benefices, an amount equal to that which they set apart last year for the same purposes. The greater part of this amount it is proposed to apply in meeting local claims attaching to the estates of certain Sees and Chapters, which claims, though the estates have been long vested in the Commissioners, they have hitherto not been able to consider. The Sees referred to are those of Bath and Wells and Ripon, and the Chapters those of St. Asaph, Worcester, Bristol, Exeter, and Wells. It is probable that the local claims still outstanding will admit of being considered and disposed of within a few years. The Commissioners have determined that, during the current year, the grants to be made by them (irrespective of those annually renewable for curates in mining districts) shall amount to a sum of £20,000 per annum in perpetuity, or to a capital sum of £600,000, and be distributed as follows:—1. In meeting benefactions offered in favour of benefices, either by annual grants in augmentation of the incomes, or by grants towards providing and improving parsonage houses, to the extent of, say, £100,000 in capital value. 2. In endowing, to the extent of £3,000 per annum in perpetuity, churches to which districts have been legally assigned since the date of the census of 1871, containing in each case a population of 4,000 persons at the date of such assignment, as follows:—(*a*) Churches in public patronage with £200 per annum. (*b*) Churches in private patronage with £100 per annum, on condition that a benefaction of equal value be provided from non-ecclesiastical sources. 3. In meeting local claims on estates vested in the Commissioners.

The Church Estates Commissioners report that the transactions approved by them between August, 1851, and March last were 3,201 in number. Last year they approved the terms agreed upon in four other cases; three being cases of sales of reversions, and one a case of a purchase of a leasehold interest.

The Committee of the National Club will hold an afternoon meeting after Easter, at which the inexpediency of authorising any national reception of the Revised Version of the New Testament will be strongly insisted on.

At the monthly meeting of the National Society's Standing Committee last week it was announced that the society's capitation grant to Church training colleges, payable on the result of the religious knowledge examination, had amounted to £2,863 for the past year. It was agreed that the grant for the current year should be at the following rate—viz., in training colleges for masters £2 for every student placed in the class-list, and in training colleges for mistresses £1 for every student placed in the class-list.

By the will of the late Dean Stanley, a sum of £3,000 was left as a contribution towards securing free admission to those portions of Westminster Abbey for entrance to which a small fixed charge has hitherto been made. The Dean and Chapter have therefore resolved to admit the public without charge on Tuesdays, in addition to the free admission which is already given on Mondays. This will, it is calculated, entail a loss of about £120 a year. The whole sum received for admission is devoted, after payment of the very moderate remuneration made to the guides, to ornamental and other purposes connected with the interior of the Abbey. It is a fund from which provision has been made for some of the most essential of the improvements which have been effected of late years; and as the insufficiency of the means left at the disposal of the Dean and Chapter for the maintenance of so important and costly a fabric gives it a value out of all proportion to its absolute amount, it is not thought wise to diminish it further.

The great bell for St. Paul's has, after much cogitating, been finally declared too big for conveyance by rail from Loughborough to London, and will accordingly be brought by road on a special carriage now in course of construction. According to present arrangements it is to be in place by Whitsuntide.

On Saturday the Curates' Alliance met in the vestry of the parish church at Clerkenwell. The Rev. R. H. Hadden, who presided, was authorised to write a letter to the Bishop protesting against the exclusion from the London Diocesan Conference of curates who had not been three years licensed in the diocese. Referring to the refusal of the Vicar-General to receive the votes of curates at the recent election of a Proctor, Mr. Hadden said he understood that the only way to test the validity of the votes tendered was by a motion in the Court of Queen's Bench—a costly process. He added that the Clergy Friendly Society, which originated with the Curates' Alliance, would shortly be registered and in working order. A report was then read from the Committee on Church Patronage, wherein the abuses of such patronage—especially private patronage—were strongly condemned. They recommended, and the Alliance adopted, the recommendation—

That, whatever be allowed in the use of Church patronage, every act should be done openly and registered accurately, and that the register be open to public inspection.

The Rev. T. Hancock here proposed to add the words:—

We can hope for no permanent good from any alterations in the laws affecting patronage which leave the rights of the Church to self-government unaffirmed and unprotected.

He maintained that patronage in itself was a sin against the Church, as the organ of the Holy Spirit. The Rev. Stewart D. Headlam seconded the motion. The Rev. G. B. Howard moved an amendment, substituting the words "interests of the congregation" for "the rights of the Church to self-government." He did not believe that the Church had rights of self-government at all. The right of government was inherent in the Bishops, as the representatives of the Great Head of the Church. The Rev. H. G. Duffield seconded the amendment, which, after a somewhat animated discussion, was carried by a large majority. It was agreed, on the recommendation of the committee, that donatives should be converted into ordinary benefices, and that no one should be eligible for preferment, unless he had at least five years' standing in priest's orders, having been in actual ministerial work during that time, and unless he was unobjectionable on physical and moral grounds.

THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN AND THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY COMMISSIONERS.

Our readers will remember that among the appeals brought against the new statutes framed by the Oxford University Commissioners was one brought by the Bishop of Lincoln against the withdrawal of his right to nominate a Fellow of Lincoln College. We are now enabled to publish a copy of the petition of appeal in support of which the Bishop appeared personally and pleaded the cause of himself and his successors in the See, but in vain, as the Universities Committee of the Privy Council declined to advise Her Majesty to disallow the statute.

Before the UNIVERSITIES' COMMITTEE of HER MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Case of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, in support of his petition against a statute of the Oxford University Commissioners for Lincoln, College dated 16th June, 1881.

The statute against which the Bishop appeals, and asks leave to be heard, is as follows:—

"Lincoln College; Statutes of Commissioners (Art xxiv. 9)—

"From and after the approval of these statutes by Her Majesty in Council *all right and power of the Bishop of Lincoln for the time being to appoint to a Fellowship in the College shall cease and determine.*"

In support of his petition against this statute, the Bishop of Lincoln submits the following representation:—

In the year 1427, one of his predecessors in the See of Lincoln, Bishop Richard Fleming, founded Lincoln College in the University of Oxford, and endowed it for a rector and seven Fellows.

In the year 1478 another of his predecessors, Bishop Thomas Rotheram, added five other Fellowships in the same college to the seven endowed by Bishop Fleming.

In the year 1536 three more Fellowships were founded by Edward Darby, Archdeacon of Stow, in the county and diocese of Lincoln; and by a composition or agreement made in that year by the Rector and Fellows of Lincoln College, with the said Archdeacon and the Bishop of Lincoln, Bishop Longlands, it was provided that the appointment to one of these Fellowships should be vested for ever in the Bishop of Lincoln for the time being.

This provision has been in force since that time, and has been recently ratified by legislative authority. In the year 1855 the following statute was approved by the Oxford University Commissioners appointed by Parliament:—

After a recital of the composition aforesaid, to the effect that of these Fellows—"unus per Dominum Episcopum Lincolniensem in perpetuum nominari statutum est" (p. 4): the statutes, which were framed and approved by the Commissioners in the year 1855, subjoined the following clause (p. 9) ratifying that composition:—"Volumus, quod e prædictis duodecim sociis perpetuis *unus per Dominum Episcopum Lincolniensem, Visitatorem Collegii nostri, pro tempore existentem nominetur et præficiatur.*"

This right of appointment to a Fellowship in Lincoln College has been exercised by Bishops of Lincoln for about 350 years.

No abuse in the exercise of this right has ever been proved, or alleged.

In the original statutes of February 2, 1479, the special *designs* with which Lincoln College was founded are declared to have been, "to promote the glory of God, the increase of the clergy, and the welfare of the Universal Church" ("ad laudem Dei, ad augmentum cleri, et profectum Universalis Ecclesiæ").

By the original statutes (cap. ii.) the Rector and all the Fellows of Lincoln College were required to take priests' orders; and all (except one, who was to be a canonist) to take degrees in theology (cap. iv.).

Lincoln College was in fact a capitular body, like that of a Collegiate Church (cap. iv.), and the meetings of the Fellows were called "chapters." It appears therefore that Lincoln College was founded and endowed to be a religious institution, and to be a seminary for the training of persons for the Ministry of the Church of England. Among all the colleges in the University of Oxford probably none had this character so distinctly impressed upon it by its founder as Lincoln College.

By the Universities Act of 1877 (40 and 41 Vict., chap. 48, sec. 13), it is provided that the "Commissioners in making a statute, affecting a college emolument, shall *have regard to the main design* of the *founder;*" and also in so doing shall "have regard to the maintenance of the college for the interests of *education, religion, learning,* and *research*" (sec. 15).

The Bishop of Lincoln submits that the present Commissioners of the University of Oxford, in making a new statute for Lincoln College which would deprive the Bishop of Lincoln and his successors of the right of appointment to a Fellowship in that college, have not complied with these legislative requirements; and have not had due regard to those considerations which are specified and prescribed for their guidance in the sections aforesaid of the Universities Act of 1877—namely, "regard to the *main design of the founder,*" and "the interests of *education, religion, and learning.*"

The Bishop of Lincoln, in exercising the right of appointment to a Fellowship in Lincoln College, has had regard to those considerations; and such he believes has been the practice of his predecessors in the See.

In appointment to the Fellowship aforesaid they have been guided by considerations of what would tend to the encouragement and reward of merit, and conduce to the welfare of the college as a seminary of sound learning and religious education, and particularly (to quote the words of the founder, declaring the design of the foundation), would promote "the glory of God, the increase of the clergy, and the welfare of the Universal Church."

Consequently he believes that the maintenance of that right would not only be in accordance with the design of the founder, and would promote the welfare of the foundation, but would also be in harmony with the expressed intentions of the Legislature in the Act of 1877.

But he ventures to think that those intentions of the Legislature have not in this respect been duly regarded by the Commissioners.

The Bishop of Lincoln begs leave also to submit for

consideration that the above remarks on the statute in question receive additional cogency from the organic changes that have been made in the entire constitution of Lincoln College by the new code of statutes framed by the Oxford Commissioners.

According to the *original* statutes, Lincoln College was a religious foundation; and its Rector and Fellows were all required to take Holy Orders.

But by the new code neither the Rector nor any one of the Fellows need be in Holy Orders; nor be a member of the Church of England; nor even be a believer in the Christian religion. In fact, Lincoln College, which was designed to be pre-eminently a College for the maintenance of religion, and for "promoting the welfare of the Church, and the increase of the clergy," has been dealt with less favourably in this respect by the Commissioners than some other colleges, whose character was not so distinctly marked in the terms of their foundation.

It appears, therefore, to be more requisite for the sake of Lincoln College, as a place of education for the sons of that large number of English parents who entertain the belief that religion, especially as taught in the Church of England, is a sound and solid basis of education, that some security should exist for the appointment of such a person to one of the fellowships of Lincoln College, as in the opinion of the Bishop of Lincoln, who would naturally feel the deepest interest in its welfare, would be best qualified by sound doctrine, and by learning, ability, and holiness of life, to promote the purposes for which Lincoln College was founded and endowed by his predecessors in that See.

A fortiori, it seems reasonable that when such a security already exists, it should not be abolished and destroyed, as it would be by the statute in question.

The existence and preservation of such a right of appointment are, he conceives, beneficial to the college, especially in times like the present

But this is also a question of public principle, involving the rights of property.

If a right of appointment, exercised without reproach for more than three centuries, is to be summarily abolished by persons in high station, it may be anticipated that disastrous consequences may follow such an act of spoliation. It will serve as a precedent for similar attempts at confiscation. It will imperil the ecclesiastical patronage of some colleges, now, it would seem, to be reduced to secular corporations. It will give an impulse to the movement, already powerful, for depriving lay patrons of Church patronage, which has in some cases been abused.

The Bishop of Lincoln, therefore, respectfully and earnestly prays that the statute aforesaid may be disallowed.

LAW PROCEEDINGS.

An unsuccessful attempt has been made by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, to impose the income-tax on county Justices in respect of Assize Courts, their purlieus, &c. Those at Reading were the buildings about which the question was tried a few days ago. In delivering judgment, Mr. Justice Grove said the case was not free from difficulty. The object of the statutes could be ascertained from the title relied on by the Justices, "duties on profits arising from properties, professions," &c. He could not think that meant a tax issuing upon or arising from the land, but was intended to be laid on the benefit people got from property, professions, or trades, &c., and on annual receipts from such property, professions, &c. The buildings were used for Government purposes, for the public administration of the justice of the country, and for the public benefit, they were constructed solely for those ends, and exclusively appropriated to them. The buildings could not properly, in his judgment, produce a pecuniary benefit to these Justices, though in a sense they were capable of so producing profit.

When a girl-apprentice marries, are her indentures of apprenticeship at once void? Or is the "obedience" due to her husband to be limited by that due to her master? This knotty point has been settled by Mr. Bushby, the magistrate at Worship-street, in favour of the husband. An application had been made on behalf of a firm of cigar-makers for summonses against two of their girl-apprentices, who had since their marriage repudiated their contract; and the magistrate refused to grant the summonses, saying that he was of opinion that the marriage of the apprentices had made their contract void. It is said that this decision will affect a large number of workwomen in London.

A communication has been received from the Local Government Board with regard to the question whether Miss Downing, a member of the Islington guardians, had become disqualified by her marriage to a Mr. Shearer. The Department, however, said no more than that they would submit the point to law officers. Meanwhile, Mrs. Shearer has offered herself for re-election; but the clerk states that there can be no question as to her future incapacity, for her name had been struck off the register as a ratepayer.

Messrs. Rivington write:—"It has come to our knowledge that application is being made to some of the clergy in the neighbourhood of London by a man representing himself as about to enter our employment, but in need of pecuniary help in the meantime. In order to protect them from imposture we wish to make it known to your readers that we are not acquainted with any such person."

At the Middlesex Sessions on Monday, James Kelly was sent to hard labour for eighteen months for corruptly taking fifteen guineas from Mrs. Besant for the restoration of a dog she had lost. The police said that the prisoner and the whole of his family were "professional dog-stealers." The prosecutrix is the person who is wellknown as an associate of Mr. Bradlaugh in his lectures and publications.

Maclean is to be tried at Reading with unusual pomp. He is to be charged with high treason, while all his predecessors in the same bad eminence, since the law has permitted a lesser charge, have been treated as misdemeanants; and a special commission, not employed in any of the other cases, is to issue to Lord Chief Justice Coleridge and Baron Huddleston to try him. Oxford, in 1840, was tried before Lord Denman, Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Patteson; Francis, in 1842, before Chief Justice Tindal, Baron Gurney, and Mr. Justice Patteson; Bean, in the same year, before Lord Abinger, Mr. Justice Williams, and Baron Rolfe; Hamilton, in 1849, pleaded "Guilty;" Pate, in the same year was tried before Baron Alderson, having as his counsel Mr. Cockburn, Q.C., the late Chief Justice, and Mr. Huddleston, then a junior counsel, and now one of the Judges who is to try Maclean; and O'Connor, in 1872, before Baron Cleasby. Oxford and Francis were charged with high treason, but all the others were indicted for the misdemeanour created by Sir Robert Peel's Act. Special commissions were not necessary in any of these cases, as all were tried at the Central Criminal Court, of which the whole bench are Judges. Maclean could not have been tried at the Central Criminal Court, as Palmer's Act, which allows a removal to that court, does not apply to high treason; but the Attorney-General might have removed the case to the Queen's Bench. A special commission, especially when it consists of two Judges who may differ in opinion, has this inconvenience, that there is no appeal to the Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved, as the commission is not a court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery. The last instance of a special commission was in 1867, when the Fenians were tried at Manchester. The policy of giving so dignified an aspect to Maclean's act may well be doubted.—*Law Journal.*

In consequence of a communication from the United States Minister, the Home Secretary has granted a reprieve until April 18, of the capital sentence passed upon the murderer, Lamson. The grounds upon which the State Department of the American Government instructed Mr. Lowell, the American Minister in London, to have the evidence in Dr. Lamson's case examined in order to see if there were any grounds for asking the interference of the Crown, were the discoveries of several cases of insanity in the prisoner's family by his friends in America. An investigation of the records of Bloomingdale Asylum, New York, proved that the aunt, grandmother, and grand uncle of the convicted man had all died in Bloomingdale Asylum. The petition to the President of the United States, asking that action might be taken in the matter, was signed, amongst others, by Bishop Littlejohn, of Long Island; Bishop Potter, of New York; the Rev. Drs. Hall, Schenk, Howland, Cooke, Morgan, and Newman; Ex-Governor Morgan, John J. Cisco, W. R. Grace, Stephen W. French, ex-Mayor Wickham, and R. G. Dun.

At the Flintshire Quarter Sessions, held at Mold on Tuesday, on the motion of Colonel the Hon. Richard Rowley, seconded by Capt. Pennant, it was resolved, by a large majority, that the expense incurred for extra police to protect the Prime Minister ought to be paid from the public purse, and not charged to the county rates; and that the Home Secretary be requested to reconsider his decision, wherein he declines to refund to the county the extra expenditure.

The Marquis of Huntly appeared on Monday at Bow-street Police-court to answer a charge of obtaining money by false pretences. The prosecutor's counsel stated that satisfactory explanations had been given, and, therefore, it was not desired to proceed with the charge. The magistrate allowed the summons to be withdrawn.

At the East Sussex Quarter Sessions on Tuesday a strong case, by circumstantial evidence, has been made out against a charcoal dealer named George Tribes for stealing a truss of hay from a neighbour's field at Maresfield, but he declared his innocence, and just as Lord Chichester was about to sum up to the jury the prisoner's son, a lad of 15, came forward and made a voluntary confession that he committed the theft. The cross-examination of Mr. Raven did not in the least shake his testimony, and the jury acquitted the father, the noble chairman ordering the boy to be detained.

At the Old Bailey, on Friday, Charles Howard, aged 50, was charged with unlawfully attempting to obtain £100 from the Duke of Sutherland, and other sums from the Duke of Montrose, Lord Leigh, and Earl Spencer, by fraud and false pretences. This was the case in which the prisoner had written to various noblemen, generally representing himself as an Italian count, to whom in his infancy the father of the nobleman applied to had stood as godfather. The prisoner, who is an American, was in October, 1876, tried at the Old Bailey for fraud and sentenced to penal servitude. He was only released in October last, and in the month of December he wrote to the Duke of Montrose asking for the loan of £100, as he was in great distress "owing to his agent in Italy having embezzled the money he had received for his rents." He sent similar letters to Earl Spencer and others; but in none of the cases now gone into did he receive any money. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

THE COURT.

On Friday the Queen and Princess drove to Monaco. Earl Spencer arrived as Minister in attendance on Her Majesty, and Lord Lyons returned to Paris. The Duke of Albany was reported to be better. On Sunday Divine service was conducted at the châlet by Canon Sidebotham. The Princess Beatrice also went to the Cathedral and witnessed the benediction of the palms. At noon Her Majesty and the Princess visited the Duke of Albany. On Monday the Princess left for Nice in the gunboat *Cygnet*, and the Duke of Albany took a drive. The Queen will leave Mentone on the 11th inst.

On Saturday the Prince and Princess of Wales accompanied the Duke of Cambridge at an inspection of the 3rd battalion of the Grenadier Guards, the 1st battalion of the Coldstreams, and the 1st battalion of the Scotch Guards. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited the Prince and Princess, and had luncheon at Marlborough House. On Saturday the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Christian, Duke Ernest Günther, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Ernest, was present on board the umpire's boat at the Oxford and Cambridge boatrace. In the evening his Royal Highness dined with Mr. Howard Vincent, the Director of Criminal Investigation. On Sunday the Prince and Princess, with their daughters, were present at Divine service. On Monday his Royal Highness witnessed some experiments with Messrs. Clark and Stanfield's ship-raising apparatus at the Westminster Aquarium, and afterwards visited the French Gallery in Pall-mall.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Inter-University Boatrace was rowed on Saturday from Putney to Mortlake, and was won by the Oxford crew by ten lengths.

A race for the Championship of the World was rowed on the Tyne on Monday by Edward Hanlan, of Toronto, and Robert Boyd, of Middlesborough. The Canadian won easily.

The annual athletic contests between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge came off on Friday at Lillie-bridge, near London. Cambridge won five events out of the nine on the programme.

The double-handed racquet match between Oxford and Cambridge was played on Tuesday, and was won by the latter by four games to two.

Late on Tuesday night, as some workmen were clearing out the cellars of a house belonging to a Mr. Rossini, a dealer in works of art, at 70, Newman-street, Oxford-street, they discovered a large wooden box, containing the remains of several human beings. Dr. Lloyd, on examining the remains, was of opinion that they had been used for anatomical purposes. Further inquiries will be made.

The Rev. H. Edwards, rector of Stedham, near Midhurst, Sussex, was found dead, having hung himself with one of the ropes in the belfry.

A Government reward of £2,000 has been offered for the discovery of the murderers of Mr. E. A. Herbert at Castleisland. Four men arrested on suspicion have been discharged.

The Prince of Wales on Tuesday attended a meeting of the committee formed to promote the raising of a memorial for the late Mr. G. E. Street, when a resolution that a full-length statue should be placed in the central hall of the Royal Palace of Justice was unanimously adopted.

The Board of Trade have given notice to Sir E. Watkin's company not to proceed further with the Channel Tunnel boring, as they have reached the limits of low-water mark.

The *London and China Telegraph* publishes the following telegram to his Highness Prince Prisdang, the Siamese Envoy, dated from Singapore, 26th ult., on the recent escape of Her Majesty from assassination, which was forwarded by his Majesty the King of Siam:—"You will proceed to express in my name my very sincere gratification on hearing the providential escape of the Queen from the frightful attempt made upon Her Majesty's precious life, and congratulate Her Majesty with all my heart that I felt deeply glad in her best safety, and sincerely pray Providence to bless and protect her in health, happiness, and prosperity in the longest reign.—CHULALONKORN, R.S." The above was transmitted on the day of its arrival (27th ult.) to Sir Henry Ponsonby at Mentone, for submission to Her Majesty, and the following reply was received in answer:—"The Queen was extremely gratified, and will transmit her cordial thanks through the Secretary for Foreign Affairs."

On Sunday morning four young men of Ipswich went down to the river Orwell in a sailing skiff. They were seen about half way down the river, and nothing has since been heard of them or their boat.

The Callander Poling Club held their first competition for the season in Loch Vannachar on Saturday. Nine boats were engaged, and during the afternoon one of them was swamped when near the shore, and two of the three occupants were drowned. The third occupant escaped by swimming ashore.

An inquest has been held at Ramsgate on the body of a young man, name unknown, who was found dead underneath the East Cliff early on Sunday morning. The deceased went, it is surmised, too near the edge of the cliff, missed his footing, and fell a distance of 90ft. Upon the deceased was found the following card:—"W. E. Sparling, wholesale and retail butcher's clothier (from T. Blackett, 66, West Corner-avenue)."

In an announcement issued by the friends of the Claimant of a demonstration next Monday (Easter Monday), to be held on Clerkenwell-green, for promoting his release from prison, some startling statements are made with reference to the still much-debated and unforgotten Tichborne case. The first is as follows:—"Sir Roger Tichborne is coming out of penal servitude to claim his estates;" and this is followed by the declaration that "Arthur Orton is coming back from Australia." Then it is stated that "Charles Orton, the brother of Arthur, will be present to answer any question which may be put to him;" and the promises wind up by declaring that the Government will "act fairly." It appears that the financial condition of the associations which are agitating for the release of the Claimant is not such as to warrant the expense of the usual Easter Monday Hyde-park demonstration, and that hence the humbler Clerkenwell quarter has been selected. The Rev. Philip Gast, of Spencer-place Chapel, Goswell-road, is announced as chairman of next Monday's meeting.

STAINED GLASS.—The Royal establishment of Mayer and Co., of Munich, whose London show-rooms are at 149, New Bond-street, submit, free of charge, designs for any windows in contemplation. Their works are executed in accordance with the style of architecture, in very best and richest pot-metal glass, or, if desired, with enamel and perspective drawings like in the windows of the Cathedrals of London, Glasgow, Cologne, and others.

BIRTHS.

March 20, at Christ's Hospital, Hertford, the wife of the Rev. J. T. BELL, of a son.

March 23, at March Baldon Rectory, Oxon, the wife of the Rev. EDMUND WALTERS, M.A., of a son.

March 31, at 12, St. George's-place, the Viscountess CRICHTON, of a daughter.

April 1, at Clewer, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES GORDON BROWNE, of a son.

April 2, at 1, Chesham-street, the Lady WILLIAM SEYMOUR, of a daughter.

April 4, at Little Stukeley Rectory, Huntingdon, the wife of the Rev. JAMES STEWART, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

March 28, at New St. Pancras Church, Middlesex, GODFREY OATES MANN, C.E., only son of G. W. Mann, Esq., of Southport, Lancashire, to ALICE, youngest daughter of GEO. BOFF, Builder, of Park-street, near St. Albans, Herts.

March 30, at St. Marylebone Church, Captain ROBT. GORDON HANDCOCK, Bengal Staff Corps, eldest son of the late Hon. Robert French Handcock, to the Hon. AUDREY M. FLORENCE ABBOTT, eldest daughter of Lord Tenterden, K.C.B.

March 29, at St. Botolph's, Heene, Worthing, by the Rev. Henry George Woods, M.A., of Trinity College, Oxford (brother of the bride), assisted by the Rev. John Robbins, D.D., of St. Peter's, Bayswater, and the Rev. Henry McLeod Beckles, M.A., Rector of Heene, WILLIAM FOARD TRIBE, of The Manor House, Broadwater, Worthing, Esq., J.P. for Sussex, to ALICE HARRIET WOODS, daughter of Henry William Woods, Esq., of The Lawn, Heene.

March 30, at St. Stephen's, South Kensington, JOHN ROSE, of 3, Dr. Johnson's-buildings, Temple, Barrister-at-law, to JANET SUSAN, only daughter of the late CHAS. DARLING, Esq., of Langham Hall, Essex, and Mrs. DARLING, of 87, Cromwell-road, South Kensington.

DEATHS.

Feb. 28, in Ceylon, of paralysis, ARTHUR JOHN STUCLEY, eldest son of the Rev. R. PALMER-SAMBORNE, Rector of Ashreigney, Devon, aged 25.

March 24, at Bayswater, CAROLINE ELIZABETH, elder daughter of the late Rev. JOHN EDGAR GIBSON, Rector of Bermondsey, Surrey, aged 57.

March 25, CHARLOTTE ELLEN, wife of the Rev. HARVEY EDMUND TAVERNER, Rector of Martin Hussingtree, Worcester.

March 28, at Ettenheim, Torquay, in the 78th year of his age. JOHN CADWALLADER, fourth Baron ERSKINE.

March 30, at Ryde, Isle of Wight, EDWARD EARNSHAW, J.P., Knaresborough, Yorkshire, aged 67.

April 1, at No. 17, Sussex-square, Brighton, SARAH ELIZABETH, widow of the late Rev. H. W. R. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON, of Binderton House, Sussex, aged 75 years.

April 2, at Bilton Vicarage, Harrogate, of scarlet fever, AGNES ESTHER, the eldest child of the Rev. BASIL K. and ESTHER H. WOODD, in her 14th year.

April 2, at Englefield Rectory, near Reading, the residence of her son, MARY PEACOCK TRAVERS, widow of the late Captain Thomas Otho Travers, of Leemount, near Cork, in her 94th year.

April 4, at Ulcombe Place, Kent, the residence of her son-in-law, ELIZABETH, widow of the late Sir JAMES TENNANT, K.C.B., late Bengal Artillery, aged 78.

At Kipton House, Weasenham, Norfolk, aged 86 years, ANN, widow of the Rev. JOHN SWIRE, Vicar of Manfield, Yorkshire.

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LATEST NEWS.

BERLIN, April 6.

In compliance with an understanding arrived at by the European Powers, the representative of each of them has been instructed to urge upon the Khedive the necessity of adopting a modification of the constitutional authority now in the hands of the Chamber of Notables, so as to render it conformable with the previous international agreement respecting the financial arrangements. If the Khedive or the Chamber of Notables decline to accede to this demand, the Powers have determined upon joint energetic measures to ensure protection for the interests of the Egyptian bondholders. All the Powers have concurred in the interests of this course of action.

The Russian caravan recently despatched to Meshed, in Persia, is about to return with a store of costly goods.

WASHINGTON, April 6.

Diplomatic correspondence between England and the United States communicated to the Senate yesterday shows that President Arthur earnestly and repeatedly requested that all imprisoned Americans should be brought to trial. Several telegrams passed between London and Washington during the recent negotiations, the contents of which the State Department does not think it would be proper to disclose at present. Mr. Lowell wrote regarding Hart that he believed that that person courted arrest with the hope of adding to the difficulties of England. Hart expressed to Mr. Lowell his belief that war between England and the United States was desirable. The despatches also show that Mr. Lowell questioned O'Connor's expression that he meant to return to America when his health permitted. The despatch of the 4th inst., announcing that five Americans were still imprisoned, was erroneous, the State Department having been advised of their release.

CAIRO, April 6.

The financial agent of Ismail Pasha, who is a Russian subject, has been requested to leave Egypt. The active propaganda maintained by agents of Ismail Pasha is stated to have led to a better understanding between the Khedive and the Ministry.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 6.

The authorities believe that among the nine soldiers recently arrested they have secured the original disseminator of Nihilist doctrines in the Preobajensky Regiment. The man in question is a young volunteer, who joined the regiment about a year ago. Suspicion fell upon him some time ago owing to his preference for nocturnal rambles in civilian costume. It was then discovered that he was in intimate relations with a young woman well known to the police as a trusted member of the Nihilist party; and on search being made at the house in which she lives, the young soldier's uniform was found. Further investigations are being made, and it is believed that some startling facts will shortly be brought to light showing the wide ramifications of the Nihilist conspiracy.

CAGLIARI, April 6.

The preliminary judicial examination of the man who attacked Captain Bosanquet, commanding Her Majesty's ironclad *Northumberland*, on the 22nd ult., is expected to be concluded at the end of this month, when the prisoner will be committed for trial at the assizes.

ROME, April 6.

Dr. von Schlözser, the Prussian Minister to the Vatican, has not yet received his credentials, but will probably present them during the last fortnight of this month.

The following telegram was received at the Admiralty on Thursday, from the commodore on the Australian station, dated the 31st March:—

"H.M.S. *Cormorant* returned from Espirito Santo (New Hebrides). Regret Lieutenant Luckraft killed. No other casualities. Has brought native prisoner, supposed implicated in *Isabelle* massacre. Communicated to High Commissioner."

Instances of corruption in Russian military circles, not excluding officers and others of the highest positions, are again becoming known, and many are of a most astounding character. The principal arsenals, it is affirmed, have been robbed of their contents.

A terrible outrage on a Jewish family is reported by a St. Petersburg correspondent. Three soldiers visited a liquor store kept by a Jew, and, refusing to leave, a quarrel ensued, in the course of which the proprietor was shot, his two sons and an infant were killed, the daughter outraged, and her mother severely beaten, the house being also plundered.

The following authentic particulars of the illness of the Duke of Albany have been furnished to the *Lancet* with his Royal Highness's permission. When on a visit to the Prince of Waldeck in February the Duke accidentally kicked against the root of a tree whilst out walking, and strained the ligaments of the right knee-joint (which joint had often given trouble previously). This occasioned a great deal of pain and swelling, symptoms which lasted nearly three weeks. Upon his Royal Highness's arrival at Mentone the joint was still weak and bandaged, and only four days after his arrival at Mentone, when walking in the street, the Duke trod on a piece of orange peel, fell backwards, and twisted the injured knee, which then became very painful, and more swollen than on the former occasion, the joint being terribly distended with effusion and intensely painful. Relief was only obtained by the hypodermic use of morphia and cold locally applied. His Royal Highness is now convalescent. His general health leaves nothing to be desired; the Duke will leave Mentone on the 11th inst.

The Flintshire police have resumed guard, as before, over the Premier at Hawarden. It was at first assumed that Mr. Gladstone would not require protection, but on reconsideration the chief constable of Flintshire decided to send a posse of police to Hawarden during the recess.

The Bishop of London has appointed the Rev. Edward Capel Cure, M.A., to the prebendal stall of Finsbury in St. Paul's Cathedral.

A handsome reredos in English oak, designed by Mr. J. Oldrid Scott, has been erected in Bangor Cathedral at the expense of Mrs. Symes. The three principal panels contain numerous figures representing Scriptural characters, and the pinnacles are surrounded by angels. Gold and colours have been freely but judiciously employed, and the whole work harmonises well with the decoration of the choir and Sanctuary.

The vestry of St. George, Hanover-square, at their meeting on Thursday, unanimously resolved to endeavour to obtain an Act of Parliament to determine the payment of ecclesiastical burial fees on the present incumbents ceasing to hold their livings; and, in connection with this object, to petition Parliament in support of the Burial Fees Bill and the Cemeteries Bill, now before Parliament.

On Thursday night two shots from a revolver were fired through the door of the house of Patrick O'Connor at Tubber, near Ennis. O'Connor is a workman in the employ of Mr. Henry De Blaquiere, who is "Boycotted."

Captain Dugmore, of Broughall Castle, King's County, against whom a prosecution is pending for having propagated the "no-rent" manifesto, has been adopted as the Land League candidate for the vacancy in county Meath. His address will be issued at once.

Eighteen notices were nailed on the doors of the tenants of Mrs. Lloyd, Tower-hill, near New Pallas, who died on Saturday, to the effect that if they attended the funeral they would be shot as dead as she was. It is stated that this barbarous threat did not prevent the tenants paying their last respects to the deceased lady.

With reference to a rumour which has been mentioned in some papers that the Archbishop of Canterbury was contemplating resignation, the *Record* has the best authority for stating that it is entirely without foundation. The Archbishop is in much improved health, and hopes within a month to be at work again at Lambeth.

The *Tablet* states that on Sunday the Pope was pleased to confirm the appointment of the Right Rev. Edmund Knight, Bishop of Coricum, to the Bishopric of Shrewsbury, and that of the Very Rev. Robert A. Coffin, Provincial of the Redemptorists in Great Britain and Ireland, to the Bishopric of Southwark.

At noon on Thursday a workman was killed and another injured by the falling of a stone bridge over the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway at Bolton. A new iron bridge has been constructed, and the stone bridge was about to be taken down when the accident occurred.

The charge of assault brought against a farmer, named Tyman, whilst resisting a seizure for tithe at Ticehurst on Thursday, came to a termination before the Sussex magistrates, who committed Tyman for trial, bail being allowed. It was stated that a threatening letter had been received by the Rev. A. Eden, on whose behalf the distraint was made.

At a meeting of the St. Saviour's (Southwark) Board of Guardians, on Thursday, the death was announced of Sir Harry Horatio Wraxall, Bart., who has for some time been chargeable to the union as a pauper. The deceased died in Wandsworth Lunatic Asylum, he having been admitted on the 1st of April, 1881, the cause of death being general paralysis. It appears that the deceased had been for many years in unfortunate circumstances, and latterly had fallen into a state of complete destitution. He followed the profession of a racing man for many years, and some six or ten years ago resided at Boulogne, where repeated losses appeared to have reduced him to penury. Towards the end he led a most precarious existence, and was even in debt to one of the members of the St. Saviour's Board of Guardians.

A highly ingenious method of arriving at an estimate of the numbers of children who succeed in evading the compulsory bylaws of the School Board has been adopted by the Ragged School Union of Liverpool. A band of music was hired to play for two hours a day during school hours in different parts of the city, and a record was kept of all the juveniles who were attracted by the music. In four days they counted no fewer than 3,020 children of school age, for the most part squalid and ill-fed, standing round the band at a time when they ought to have been at school. The idea is obviously capable of development. School Boards might do worse than occasionally send a Punch-and-Judy show round the streets during school hours, with a school warden in disguise. The difficulty of getting the waifs and strays of the streets into school will never be overcome until education is not only compulsory but free.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

An inquest was held on Thursday on a little girl who had lived with her parents in a model lodging-house in Bethnal-green. She was playing with a ball on the second-floor landing when she overbalanced herself and fell into the street. The jury, who returned a verdict of accidental death, expressed their opinion that the children in these dwellings were insufficiently protected, and asked the Coroner to call the attention of the managers to the matter. An extraordinary death of a girl a year and nine months old was also the subject of an inquest. She was found lying in a yard with a game cock pecking at her. There was a wound on the head caused by the bird's beak, and one on the temple produced by its spur, and the jury found that death was thus occasioned.

The *Athenæum* publishes the following graceful *In Memoriam* of the poet Longfellow:—

Nec turpem senectam
Degere, nec cithará carentem.

"Not to be tuneless in old age!"
Ah! surely blest his pilgrimage,
Who, in his winter's snow,
Still sings with note as sweet and clear
As in the morning of the year
When the first violets blow!

Blest!—but more blest, whom summer's heat,
Whom spring's impulsive stir and beat,
Have taught no feverish lure;
Whose Muse, benignant and serene,
Still keeps his autumn chaplet green
Because his verse is pure!

Lie calm, O white and laureate head!
Lie calm, O Dead, that art not dead,
Since from the voiceless grave,
Thy voice shall speak to old and young
While song yet speaks an English tongue
By Charles' or Thamis' wave!

AUSTIN DOBSON.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Lieutenant-Colonel Hastings, C.B., son of the late Hon. Edward Hastings, and Miss Henniker, eldest daughter of Sir Brydges Henniker.

The marriage arranged between the Duke of Westminster and the Hon. Catherine Caroline Cavendish, third and only unmarried daughter of Lord and Lady Chesham, will take place shortly. The elder sisters of the *fiancée* are the Countess of Leicester and Lady Lyttelton. Her brother, the Hon. Charles Compton Cavendish, is married to the Lady Beatrice Grosvenor, daughter of the ducal bridegroom, so that some remarkable relationships will be brought about by the marriage.

Capt. Robert Gordon Handcock, of the Bengal Staff Corps, eldest son of the late Hon. Robert Handcock, was married to the Hon. Audrey Mary Florence, eldest daughter of Lord Tenterden, on the 30th ult., at St. Marylebone Church. The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. Page-Roberts, of St. Peter's, Vere-street. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by six bridesmaids—the Hon. Geraldine and Hon. Gwen Abbott, Miss Caroline Pollock, Miss Marion Pollock, Miss Knight, and Miss Handcock, the bridegroom being accompanied by Mr. Clement Arber as best man. The wedding party were afterwards entertained at breakfast by Lord and Lady Tenderden at their residence in Portland-place. Shortly after two o'clock Capt. and the Hon. Mrs. Handcock left for Paris. The wedding presents, which were very numerous, included many handsome specimens of jewellery and silver.

Mrs. Bolton had a musical party on Tuesday afternoon at her residence in Queen's-gate-terrace, which was very numerously and fashionably attended. Miss Brough, Mr. Colnaghie, and some others sang, and Mrs. Kemmis Betty played. There were some pretty toilets. The hostess wore a grey costume, the skirt of alternate kilt plaitings of silk and satin, with passementerie of steel and gold beads; the jacket bodice was of iron-grey velvet, trimmed with the same passementerie, and the waistcoat was of grey satin. Lady Ellenborough was in black, a combination of plain and watered silk, with profuse trimming of lace and jet. Lady Maria Spearman had a long cloak of brown and gold brocade, with muff and toque to correspond. Mrs. Stewart Lane wore an entire costume of chocolate velvet. Mrs. Kemmis Betty was in violet. Mrs. Lord wore black velvet, with violets on the muff and bonnet. Mrs. Molesworth wore black velvet brocade on a pale lavender ground, and bonnet of black lace with purple violets and cineraria. Mrs. Ellis Brooke-Cunliffe wore a short flounced skirt of olive-green satin, Newmarket coat of black velvet, and bonnet composed of rainbow beads. Among the other guests were Lady Horatia Wadlow, Lady Ida Waldegrave, General and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Randolph, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Hunter-Blair, Mrs. Percy Oxenden, Mrs. Le Couteur, Mrs. Ellison, Mr., Mrs., and the Misses Hawker, Mrs. Orlando Fitzroy, Mr. Bagot Molesworth, Mr. Augustus Stephens, &c.

The Earl of Eglinton and the gentlemen of the Eglinton Hunt, gave their annual ball at Ayr, on the 28th ult., in the new Townhall, which was beautifully decorated, and dancing began shortly before eleven o'clock. There were nearly two hundred and fifty present, including the Earl and Countess of Eglinton and Lady Sophia Montgomery, the Hon. T. and Lady Gertrude Cochrane, Capt. and Mrs. Boyle, Capt. and Mrs. Heron Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy (Dalquharran), Capt. Shaw Kennedy, Col. Wallace (Royal Scots Greys), Capt. and Mrs. Stuart Menteith, Miss Kennedy, &c. Many of the dresses were much admired. The Countess of Eglinton wore pale blue satin and tulle, and fine diamonds; Lady Gertrude Cochrane, white tulle and satin; Lady Sophia Montgomery, white and silver and white wreath; Mrs. Oswald, cream satin and tulle, fine diamonds, and with this lovely dress she carried a beautiful bouquet of white lilac; Mrs. Boyle, mauve satin and black lace, and bouquet of Parma violets. Most of the young ladies' dresses were white, which looked well with the numerous pink coats. One young lady wore white tulle and satin bodice with wreaths of daisies; another much admired was a white tulle skirt, all in clouds, and a silver dazzling beaded bodice, no ornaments, and the wearer carried a large bouquet of daffodils. Two sisters wore white and pearls, and one married lady wore old-gold coloured satin, trimmed with lace to match, and magnificent diamonds. A black tulle, trimmed with silver, looked very effective. A young married lady wore white satin low bodice, trimmed with white bead passementerie, and no other ornaments. The ball was larger than usual, and many of the company remained for the Bog-side Races on Thursday and Friday.

Mrs. Cecil Raikes had an evening party on Saturday last, in Warwick-square, which was very fully and fashionally attended. The guests commenced to arrive shortly after half-past ten o'clock. There was a great preponderance of black toilets, one of the most uncommon being of black gauze with large clusters of black and grey velvet poppies, laid on large jet leaves; the bodice was of velvet, with a jet waistcoat and a cluster of flowers on the left shoulder. A golden satin dress had paniers and bodice of purple brocaded velvet, trimmed with old lace, and a single cluster of large lilac climatis. One young lady wore a dress of white tulle dusted with silver and wreaths of real jonquils.

A beautiful design has been selected for the costly gift about to be presented by the residents of Windsor to Princess Helen of Waldeck upon the occasion of her marriage with the Duke of Albany. The jewel will consist of a double coil brilliant serpent bracelet, the scales of which will be formed by 20-carat stones set continuously in a silver framework, with a large sapphire, valued at £70, upon the head, and ruby eyes. The back of the bracelet will be of dark blue enamel work, while the inside will be lined with gold and engraved with the inscription, "From Windsor," and the date of the marriage, which has yet to be settled.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed ACROSTIC EDITOR, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 6.

(TWENTY-FIFTH QUARTER.)

1. B os S
2. R ivier A
3. I gdrasi L
4. T iticac A
5. A nthe M
6. I tta I
7. N autilu S

NOTE.—Light 3: The tree of life in the Scandinavian Mythology, called by Carlyle "The infinite conjugation of the verb to do."

Correct solutions have been received from Jumbo, Katydid, Lathyra, and Peewit.—4 correct, 37 incorrect, total, 41.

"Culverin," "Florence," "Hadji," "Jumbo," and "Wick," are credited with correct solutions to Acrostic No. 5.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 8.

(TWENTY-FIFTH QUARTER.)

PROEM.

In Par'iament we always are,
And wage increasing furious war,
And strange to say 'mid all the pother,
We're this in one House, that in t'other.

1.

Were Gladstone for awhile but this,
Our ears would rest in quiet bliss.

2.

My king was captured in a fight,
And executed ere the night.

3.

Apostate ruler! what undying shame
Enshrouds for ever thy inglorious name!

4.

"Best, purest, and most fragrant," who can dare,
E'en Oliver with Roland to compare.

5.

Of Universities I'm chief
In villages I need relief.

6.

Led by their queen, they flung aside
The Roman rule, were crush'd and died.

7.

A linendraper and a millionaire,
Perchance you'll know him by his colour'd hair.

8.

Once I was your's, yet I began to be
Only when we had parted company.

B. FORDE.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr. HUBBARD asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether, on the adjournment of the House for the Easter festival, he would consider the position of the Rev. Sidney Faithorn Green, now, and for a year past, incarcerated in Lancaster gaol, under these circumstances:—Mr. Green was prosecuted for an alleged infraction of the legal ritual of the Church of England, and for this offence was visited with the punishment of imprisonment. And whether, considering that Lord Penzance, who tried him—a Judge created by the Public Worship Regulation Act, and exercising the functions of Official Principal—had never completed his qualifications in the usual way, and, considering also the severity of the penalty inflicted for a ritual irregularity, he would devise some means of terminating Mr. Green's prolonged detention in Lancaster gaol.

To this Mr. GLADSTONE replied thus:—

This question relates to the case of the Rev. Mr. S. F. Green, who is now, and has been for some time, in prison under, I believe, the Public Worship Regulation Act. My right hon. friend asks me whether we will consider the position of Mr. Green. We have had occasion to consider this case carefully in consequence of various memorials and representations made to Her Majesty's Government. But my right hon. friend asks me whether I will devise some means of terminating Mr. Green's prolonged detention in Lancaster gaol. Well, Sir, what I am advised is that Her Majesty could not, without going beyond the limit of constitutional practice, which it would be wrong in us to transgress, apply the prerogotive of mercy or any other power which she may possess for the release of Mr. Green by her own order. With respect to devising some means of terminating the imprisonment of Mr. Green—which must mean legislative means—*I think that is rather a business belonging to the consideration of the high authorities who devised and who passed the Public Worship Regulation Act than it is for Her Majesty's Government.*

At the Westminster Police-court, on Friday, Samuel Newman, twenty-two, with a number of *aliases*, was charged on remand with defrauding clergymen. Inspector Cronin said that he had received letters from about fifty clergymen who had been defrauded. The prisoner's plan was to call and state that he had just come out of prison, and was in great distress. Full inquiry had been made, but the police could not find he had ever been in prison. The magistrate said he had received letters from all parts from persons who had been deceived, and sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour under the Vagrant Act. After sentence the prisoner admitted that he had never been in prison.

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